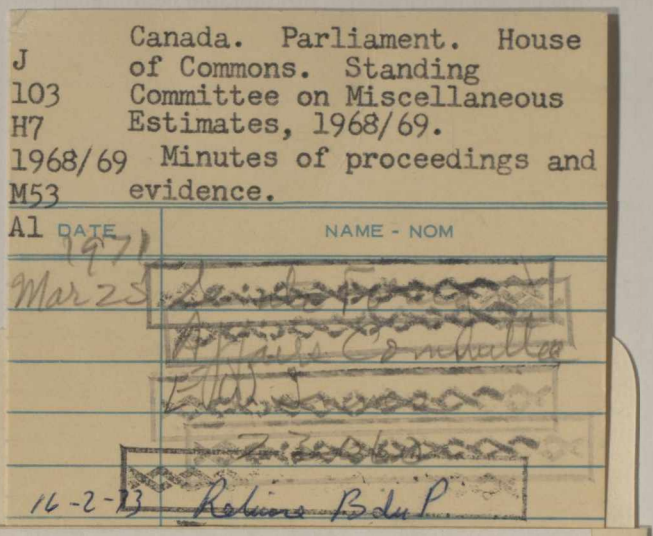
LIBRARY OF PARLIAMENT

J
103
H7
1968/69
M53
Canada. Parliament. House of Commons. Standing Committee on Miscellaneous Estimates, 1968/69.
Minutes of proceedings and evidence.



Date Loaned
MAY 12 1982
CAT. NO. 1138

J
103
H7
1968/69
M53
A1

HOUSE OF COMMONS

First Session—Twenty-eighth Parliament

1968

STANDING COMMITTEE

ON

MISCELLANEOUS ESTIMATES

Chairman: Mr. FERNAND E. LEBLANC

PROCEEDINGS

No. 1

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 24, 1968

Including

APPENDIX A

The items listed in the Revised Main Estimates for 1968-69, relating to the Company of Young Canadians, the Public Service Commission and the Public Service Staff Relations Board.

ROGER DUHAMEL, F.R.S.C.
QUEEN'S PRINTER AND CONTROLLER OF STATIONERY
OTTAWA, 1968

29126—1

STANDING COMMITTEE
ON
MISCELLANEOUS ESTIMATES

Chairman: [1] Mr. Fernand E. Leblanc

Vice-Chairman: Mr. Aurélien Noël

and Messrs.

Alkenbrack,
Éthier,
[3] Gillespie,
Gundlock,
Laniel,
LeBlanc (*Rimouski*),
Marchand (*Kamloops-Cariboo*),
Mather,
McCutcheon,
Paproski,
Peddle,
Penner,
Perrault,
Robinson,
[2] Rochon,
Rodrigue,
Stewart (*Marquette*),
Thompson (*Battleford-Kindersley*)—20.

(Quorum 11)

Gabrielle Savard,
Clerk of the Committee.

[1] Mr. Leblanc (*Laurier*) replaced Mr. Prud'homme on October 10.
[2] Mr. Rochon replaced Mr. Francis on October 11.
[3] Mr. Gillespie replaced Mr. Weatherhead on October 23.

ORDERS OF REFERENCE

TUESDAY, October 8, 1968.

Resolved,—That the following Members do compose the Standing Committee on Miscellaneous Estimates:

Messrs.

Alkenbrack,	Mather,	Prud'homme,
Éthier,	McCutcheon,	Robinson,
Francis,	Noël,	Rodrigue,
Gundlock,	Paproski,	Stewart (*Marquette*),
Laniel,	Peddle,	Thomson (*Battleford-Kindersley*),
LeBlanc (*Rimouski*),	Penner,	Weatherhead—(20).
Marchand (*Kamloops-Cariboo*),	Perrault,	

THURSDAY, October 10, 1968.

Ordered,—That the name of Mr. Leblanc (*Laurier*) be substituted for that of Mr. Prud'homme on the Standing Committee on Miscellaneous Estimates.

FRIDAY, October 11, 1968.

Ordered,—That the name of Mr. Rochon be substituted for that of Mr. Francis on the Standing Committee on Miscellaneous Estimates.

WEDNESDAY, October 16, 1968.

Ordered,—That, saving always the powers of the Committee of Supply in relation to the voting of public moneys, the items listed in the Revised Main Estimates for 1968-69, relating to the Company of Young Canadians, the Public Service Commission and the Public Service Staff Relations Board, be withdrawn from the Committee of Supply and referred to the Standing Committee on Miscellaneous Estimates.

WEDNESDAY, October 23, 1968.

Ordered,—That the name of Mr. Gillespie be substituted for that of Mr. Weatherhead on the Standing Committee on Miscellaneous Estimates.

ATTEST:

ALISTAIR FRASER,
The Clerk of the House of Commons.

29126—1½

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

[*Text*]

THURSDAY, October 24, 1968.
(1)

The Standing Committee on Miscellaneous Estimates met this day at 10.05 a.m. for organization purposes.

Members present: Messrs. Éthier, Leblanc (*Laurier*), LeBlanc (*Rimouski*), Marchand (*Kamloops-Cariboo*), Noël, Peddle, Penner, Perrault, Robinson, Rochon, Stewart (*Marquette*), Thomson (*Battleford-Kindersley*)—(12).

The Clerk attending and having called for nominations, Mr. Éthier moved, seconded by Mr. LeBlanc (*Rimouski*), that Mr. Leblanc (*Laurier*) be elected Chairman of the Committee.

On motion of Mr. Robinson,

Agreed,—That nominations be closed.

Mr. Leblanc (*Laurier*) was declared elected Chairman; he took the Chair and thanked the members of the Committee for the honour bestowed upon him.

On motion of Mr. Perrault, seconded by Mr. Rochon,

Resolved,—That Mr. Noël be elected Vice-Chairman.

On motion of Mr. Robinson, seconded by Mr. LeBlanc (*Rimouski*),

Resolved,—That the Subcommittee on Agenda and Procedure be comprised of the Chairman, the Vice-Chairman and four other members appointed by the Chairman after the usual consultations with the Whips of the different parties.

On motion of Mr. Robinson, seconded by Mr. Marchand (*Kamloops-Cariboo*),

Resolved,—That the Committee print 750 copies in English and 350 copies in French of its Minutes of Proceedings and Evidence.

Agreed,—That the items listed in the Revised Main Estimates for 1968-69, relating to the Company of Young Canadians, the Public Service Commission, and the Public Service Staff Relations Board, referred to the Committee on October 16, be printed as an appendix to the Committee's Proceedings (*See Appendix A*).

On motion of Mr. Éthier, seconded by Mr. LeBlanc (*Rimouski*), at 10.22 a.m. the Committee adjourned to the call of the Chair.

Gabrielle Savard,
Clerk of the Committee.

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

[Text]

THURSDAY, October 24, 1968.
(1)

The Standing Committee on Miscellaneous Estimates met this day at 10.05 a.m. for organization purposes.

Members present: Messrs. Ethier, Leblanc (Laurier), LeBlanc (Rimouski), Marchand (Kamloops-Cariboo), Noël, Peddle, Penner, Perrault, Robinson, Roebon, Stewart (Marquette), Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley)—(12).

The Clerk attending and having called for nominations, Mr. Ethier moved, seconded by Mr. LeBlanc (Rimouski), that Mr. Leblanc (Laurier) be elected Chairman of the Committee.

On motion of Mr. Robinson,

Agreed,—That nominations be closed.

Mr. Leblanc (Laurier) was declared elected Chairman; he took the Chair and thanked the members of the Committee for the honour bestowed upon him.

On motion of Mr. Perrault, seconded by Mr. Roebon,

Resolved,—That Mr. Noël be elected Vice-Chairman.

On motion of Mr. Robinson, seconded by Mr. LeBlanc (Rimouski),

Resolved,—That the Subcommittee on Agenda and Procedure be comprised of the Chairman, the Vice-Chairman and four other members appointed by the Chairman after the usual consultations with the Whips of the different parties.

On motion of Mr. Robinson, seconded by Mr. Marchand (Kamloops-Cariboo),

Resolved,—That the Committee print 750 copies in English and 350 copies in French of its Minutes of Proceedings and Evidence.

Agreed,—That the items listed in the Revised Main Estimates for 1968-69, relating to the Company of Young Canadians, the Public Service Commission, and the Public Service Staff Relations Board, referred to the Committee on October 16, be printed as an appendix to the Committee's Proceedings (See Appendix A).

On motion of Mr. Ethier, seconded by Mr. LeBlanc (Rimouski), at 10.22 a.m. the Committee adjourned to the call of the Chair.

Gabrielle Savard,
Clerk of the Committee.

APPENDIX "A"

SECRETARY OF STATE

REVISED ESTIMATES, 1968-69

29126—2½

No. of Vote	Service	1968-69	1967-68	Change	
				Increase	Decrease
		$	$	$	$
	G—COMPANY OF YOUNG CANADIANS (formerly under Privy Council)				
48	Payment to the Company of Young Canadians (Details, page 452)	1,900,000	2,445,000	.....	545,000

Positions (man-years)		Details of Services	Amount	
1968-69	1967-68		1968-69	1967-68
			$	$
		G—COMPANY OF YOUNG CANADIANS		
		Vote 48—Payment to the Company of Young Canadians ..... (12)	**1,900,000**	**2,445,000**
		Expenditure		
		1965-66 ..... $ 45,043		
		1966-67 854,308		
		1967-68 (estimated) 2,338,374		

No. of Vote	Service	1968–69	1967–68	Change	
				Increase	Decrease
		$	$	$	$
	M—PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION				
80	Salaries and Contingencies of the Commission including compensation in accordance with the Incentive Award Plan of the Public Service of Canada, and the Public Service Bilingual and Bicultural Development Program (Details, page 461)	13,391,200	12,625,401	765,799	
85	Construction or Acquisition of Buildings, Works, Land and Equipment, including the Public Service Bilingual and Bicultural Development Program (Details, page 464)	614,700	1,197,000	.....	582,300
		14,005,900	**13,822,401**	**183,499**	

Positions (man-years)		Details of Services	Amount	
1968-69	1967-68		1968-69	1967-68
			$	$
		M—PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION		
		Approximate Value of Major Services not included in these Estimates		
		Accommodation (provided by the Department of Public Works)	2,537,200	771,400
		Accounting and cheque issue service (Comptroller of the Treasury)	102,400	72,100
		Contributions to Superannuation Account (Treasury Board)	646,600	641,500
		Contributions to Canada Pension Plan Account and Quebec Pension Plan Account (Treasury Board)	92,900	72,800
		Employee surgical-medical insurance premiums (Treasury Board)	19,000	46,000
		Employee compensation payments (Department of Labour)	600	1,300
		Carrying of franked mail (Post Office Department)	105,900	90,000
			3,504,600	1,695,100
		Vote 80—Salaries and Contingencies of the Commission including compensation in accordance with the Incentive Award Plan of the Public Service of Canada, and the Public Service Bilingual and Bicultural Development Program		
		DEPARTMENTAL ADMINISTRATION		
1	1	Chairman ($28,750)		
2	2	Commissioner ($24,250)		
		Salaried Positions:		
		Administrative and Foreign Service:		
1	1	($16,000-$18,000)		
2	2	($14,000-$16,000)		
2	2	($12,000-$14,000)		
3	3	($10,000-$12,000)		
12	12	($8,000-$10,000)		
19	54	($6,000-$8,000)		
		Technical, Operational and Service:		
1	1	($8,000-$10,000)		
2	1	($6,000-$8,000)		
2	2	(Under $4,000)		
		Administrative Support:		
4	4	($8,000-$10,000)		
11	11	($6,000-$8,000)		
68	68	($4,000-$6,000)		
17	16	(Under $4,000)		
147	180			
(147)	(180)	Continuing Establishment	794,000	1,138,460
	(6)	Casuals and Others	.....	22,340
(147)	(186)	Salaries and Wages (1)	794,000	1,160,800
		Overtime (1)	3,000	5,500
		Memberships (1)	1,000	1,000
		Travelling and Removal Expenses (2)	15,300	26,000
		Freight, Express and Cartage (2)	22,000	18,000
		Postage (2)	43,000	45,000
		Telephones and Telegrams (2)	173,500	115,000
		Publication of Departmental Reports (3)	14,000	
		Advertising (3)	.....	30,200
		Professional and Special Services (4)	73,000	82,201
		Stationery, Supplies and Equipment (7)	296,600	331,400
		Grant to the Public Personnel Association to assist in defraying the costs of a conference held in Vancouver and Victoria in October, 1967 (10)	.....	1,000

Positions (man-years)		Details of Services	Amount	
1968–69	1967–68		1968–69	1967–68
			$	$
		M—PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION (Continued)		
		Vote 80 (Continued)		
		DEPARTMENTAL ADMINISTRATION (Continued)		
		Incentive Awards.....(12)	76,000	66,000
		Sundries.....(12)	10,000	10,200
			1,521,400	1,892,301
		STAFFING		
		Salaried Positions:		
		Executive, Scientific and Professional:		
1	1	Senior Officer 3 ($20,500–$25,750)		
4	4	Senior Officer 2 ($18,500–$23,500)		
5	5	Senior Officer 1 ($16,500–$21,250)		
		Administrative and Foreign Service:		
12	12	($18,000–$21,000)		
18	18	($16,000–$18,000)		
19	19	($14,000–$16,000)		
60	44	($12,000–$14,000)		
65	57	($10,000–$12,000)		
90	90	($8,000–$10,000)		
4	4	($6,000–$8,000)		
		Technical, Operational and Service:		
1	1	($10,000–$12,000)		
1	1	($8,000–$10,000)		
		Administrative Support:		
3	3	($8,000-$10,000)		
44	44	($6,000-$8,000)		
311	279	($4,000-$6,000)		
20	20	(Under $4,000)		
658	602			
(658)	(602)	Continuing Establishment.....	4,983,000	4,419,000
(33)	(20)	Casuals and Others.....	171,000	75,000
(691)	(622)	Salaries and Wages.....(1)	5,154,000	4,494,000
		Overtime.....(1)	10,000	14,000
		Memberships.....(1)	5,000	3,000
		Travelling and Removal Expenses.....(2)	339,300	340,500
		Publication of Departmental Reports and other Material.....(3)	28,000	19,400
		Advertising for Recruiting Purposes.....(3)	644,000	704,000
		Professional and Special Services.....(4)	383,000	230,000
		Rental of Office Equipment.....(5)	152,000	
		Rental of Buildings.....(5)	28,000	18,000
		Office Stationery, Supplies, Equipment and Furnishings.....(7)	110,000	132,000
		Materials and Supplies.....(7)	58,000	8,000
		Sundries.....(12)	128,000	117,000
			7,039,300	6,079,900
		LANGUAGE		
		Salaried Positions:		
		Executive, Scientific and Professional:		
1		Senior Officer 3 ($20,500-$25,750)		
2	2	Senior Officer 1 ($16,500-$21,250)		
5		($16,000-$18,000)		
27	28	($14,000-$16,000)		
187	33	($12,000-$14,000)		
53	140	($10,000-$12,000)		
	55	($8,000-$10,000)		

Positions (man-years)		Details of Services	Amount	
1968-69	1967-68		1968-69	1967-68
			$	$
		M—PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION (Continued)		
		Vote 80 (Continued)		
		LANGUAGE (Continued)		
		Salaried Positions: (Continued)		
		Administrative and Foreign Service:		
	2	($16,000-$18,000)		
4		($14,000-$16,000)		
2		($12,000-$14,000)		
1		($10,000-$12,000)		
4	1	($8,000-$10,000)		
	1	($6,000-$8,000)		
		Technical, Operational and Service:		
3	2	($6,000-$8,000)		
11	12	($4,000-$6,000)		
		Administrative Support:		
4		($5,000-$8,000)		
35	44	($4,000-$6,000)		
41	30	(Under $4,000)		
380	350			
(380)	(350)	Continuing Establishment	3,500,300	3,325,340
(19)	(29)	Casuals and Others	221,000	326,360
(399)	(379)	Salaries and Wages (1)	3,721,300	3,651,700
		Travelling and Removal Expenses (2)	125,000	89,400
		Publication of Departmental Reports and other Material (3)	4,000	3,000
		Professional and Special Services (4)	350,500	250,100
		Rental of Office Equipment (5)	10,800	
		Rental of Buildings (5)	.....	10,800
		Repairs and Upkeep of Buildings (6)	47,300	32,900
		Office Stationery, Supplies, Equipment and Furnishings (7)	212,000	328,000
		Materials and Supplies (7)	145,000	125,000
		Sundries (12)	31,500	32,300
			4,647,400	4,523,200
		APPEALS		
		Salaried Positions:		
		Executive, Scientific and Professional:		
1	1	Senior Officer 2 ($18,500-$23,500)		
		Administrative and Foreign Service:		
1	1	($18,000-$21,000)		
1	1	($14,000-$16,000)		
2		($12,000-$14,000)		
6	6	($10,000-$12,000)		
		Administrative Support:		
1	1	($6,000-$8,000)		
5	5	($4,000-$6,000)		
1	1	(Under $4,000)		
18	16			
(18)	(16)	Salaries (1)	174,000	118,000
		Travelling and Removal Expenses (2)	8,100	5,000
		Professional and Special Services (4)	.....	7,000
		Office Stationery, Supplies, Equipment and Furnishings (7)	1,000	
			183,100	130,000

Positions (man-years)		Details of Services	Amount	
1968-69	1967-68		1968-69	1967-68
			$	$
		M—PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION (Continued)		
		Vote 80 (Continued)		
		Total, Vote 80	**13,391,200**	**12,625,401**
		Expenditure		
		1965-66 $ 7,942,397		
		1966-67 8,876,640		
		1967-68 (estimated) 12,875,000		
		Vote 85—Construction or Acquisition of Buildings, Works, Land and Equipment, including the Public Service Bilingual and Bicultural Development Program		
		DEPARTMENTAL ADMINISTRATION		
		Construction or Acquisition of Equipment (9)	242,000	

Positions (man-years)		Details of Services	Amount	
1968–69	1967–68		1968–69	1967–68
			$	$
		M—PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION (Continued)		
		Vote 85 (Continued)		
		LANGUAGE		
		Construction or Acquisition of Buildings, Works and Land.....(8)	8,000	595,000
		Construction or Acquisition of Equipment.....(9)	364,700	602,000
			372,700	1,197,000
		Total, Vote 85.....	**614,700**	**1,197,000**
		Expenditure		
		1965–66..... $ 44,457		
		1966–67..... 319,202		
		1967–68 (estimated)..... 1,678,000		

No. of Vote	Service	1968–69	1967–68	Change	
				Increase	Decrease
		$	$	$	$
	C—PUBLIC SERVICE STAFF RELATIONS BOARD				
25	Administration (Details, page 388).....	1,409,000	998,000	411,000	

Positions (man-years)		Details of Services	Amount	
1968-69	1967-68		1968-69	1967-68
			$	$
		C—PUBLIC SERVICE STAFF RELATIONS BOARD		
		Approximate Value of Major Services not included in these Estimates		
		Accommodation (provided by the Department of Public Works)	95,400	
		Accounting and cheque issue services (Comptroller of the Treasury)	8,900	
		Contributions to Superannuation Account (Treasury Board)	51,400	
		Contributions to Canada Pension Plan Account and Quebec Pension Plan Account (Treasury Board)	6,600	
		Employee surgical-medical insurance premiums (Treasury Board)	1,400	
		Carrying of franked mail (Post Office Department)	3,000	
			166,700	
		Vote 25—Administration		
		ADMINISTRATION OF THE PUBLIC SERVICE STAFF RELATIONS BOARD		
1	1	Chairman ($28,750)		
1	1	Vice-Chairman ($26,500)		
	1	Chief Adjudicator		
	2	Adjudicator		
		Salaried Positions:		
		Administrative and Foreign Service:		
2	2	($18,000-$21,000)		
1		($14,000-$16,000)		
2	2	($12,000-$14,000)		
3	2	($10,000-$12,000)		
	1	($8,000-$10,000)		
		Technical, Operational and Service:		
1		($6,000-$8,000)		
		Administrative Support:		
4	4	($6,000-$8,000)		
18	10	($4,000-$6,000)		
8	6	(Under $4,000)		
41	32			
(41)	(32)	Continuing Establishment	294,000	280,000
(1)		Casuals and Others	6,000	
(42)	(32)	Salaries and Wages (1)	300,000	280,000
		Travelling and Removal Expenses (2)	15,000	15,000
		Postage (2)	2,000	1,000
		Telephones, Telegrams and other Communication Expenses (2)	6,000	5,000
		Professional and Special Services (4)	20,000	5,000
		Rental of Office Machines (5)	10,000	3,000
		Office Stationery, Supplies and Equipment (7)	29,000	10,000
		Furniture and Furnishings (9)	8,000	3,000
		Payment and Expenses of Board Members (12)	95,000	120,000
		Remuneration and Expenses of the Arbitration Tribunal and Conciliation Board (12)	75,000	40,000
		Remuneration and Expenses of Adjudicators (12)	114,000	
		Sundries (12)	5,000	3,000
			679,000	485,000

Positions (man-years)		Details of Services	Amount	
1968–69	1967–68		1968–69	1967–68
			$	$
		C—PUBLIC SERVICE STAFF RELATIONS BOARD (Continued)		
		Vote 25 (Continued)		
		ADMINISTRATION (Continued)		
		Expenditure		
		1965–66 $		
		1966–67 29,434		
		1967–68 (estimated) 418,500		
		PAY RESEARCH BUREAU		
		Salaried Positions:		
		Executive, Scientific and Professional:		
1	1	Senior Officer 2 ($18,500–$23,500)		
1	1	Senior Officer 1 ($16,500–$21,250)		
		Administrative and Foreign Service:		
1	1	($18,000–$21,000)		
6	6	($16,000–$18,000)		
1		($14,000–$16,000)		
6		($12,000–$14,000)		
18	16	($10,000–$12,000)		
		Administrative Support:		
1	1	($6,000–$8,000)		
20	15	($4,000–$6,000)		
12	2	(Under $4,000)		
67	43			
(67)	(43)	Continuing Establishment	516,000	389,950
(2)		Casuals and Others	6,000	
(69)	(43)	Salaries and Wages (1)	522,000	389,950
		Overtime (1)	1,000	2,000
		Memberships in Personnel Organizations (1)	500	650
		Travelling and Removal Expenses (2)	40,000	39,400
		Telephones and Telegrams (2)	5,000	2,500
		Postage (2)	5,000	
		Publication of Departmental Reports and other Material (3)	20,000	18,500
		Professional and Special Services (4)	125,000	25,000
		Office Stationery, Supplies and Equipment (7)	7,500	35,000
		Furniture and Furnishings (9)	3,000	
		Sundries (12)	1,000	
			730,000	513,000
		Expenditure		
		1965–66 $		
		1966–67 359,787		
		1967–68 (estimated) 630,500		
		Total, Vote 25	**1,409,000**	**998,000**
		Expenditure		
		1965–66 $		
		1966–67 389,221		
		1967–68 (estimated) 1,049,000		

HOUSE OF COMMONS

First Session—Twenty-eighth Parliament

1968

STANDING COMMITTEE

ON

MISCELLANEOUS ESTIMATES

OFFICIAL REPORT OF MINUTES

OF

PROCEEDINGS AND EVIDENCE

This edition contains the English deliberations and/or a translation into English of the French.

Copies and complete sets are available to the public by subscription to the Queen's Printer. Cost varies according to Committees.

Translations under the direction of the Bureau for Translations, Secretary of State.

ASSISTANT PRASER,

The Clerk of the House.

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS AND EVIDENCE

No. 1

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 1968

Respecting

The items listed in the Revised Main Estimates for 1968-69, relating to the Public Service Commission.

WITNESSES:

Representing the Public Service Commission: Messrs. J. J. Carson, Chairman, and M. B. Carson, Director of Language Training.

ROGER DUHAMEL, F.R.S.C.
QUEEN'S PRINTER AND CONTROLLER OF STATIONERY
OTTAWA, 1968

32129—1

OFFICIAL REPORT OF MINUTES

OF

PROCEEDINGS AND EVIDENCE

This edition contains the English deliberations and/or a translation into English of the French.

Copies and complete sets are available to the public by subscription to the Queen's Printer. Cost varies according to Committees.

Translations under the direction of the Bureau for Translations, Secretary of State.

ALISTAIR FRASER,

The Clerk of the House.

HOUSE OF COMMONS

First Session—Twenty-eighth Parliament

1968

STANDING COMMITTEE

ON

MISCELLANEOUS ESTIMATES

Chairman: Mr. FERNAND E. LEBLANC

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS AND EVIDENCE

No. 2

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 1968

Respecting

The items listed in the Revised Main Estimates for 1968-69, relating to the Public Service Commission.

WITNESSES:

Representing the Public Service Commission: Messrs. J. J. Carson, Chairman, and M. B. Caron, Director of Language Training.

ROGER DUHAMEL, F.R.S.C.
QUEEN'S PRINTER AND CONTROLLER OF STATIONERY
OTTAWA, 1968

29128—1

STANDING COMMITTEE

ON

MISCELLANEOUS ESTIMATES

Chairman: Mr. Fernand E. Leblanc

Vice-Chairman: Mr. Aurélien Noël

and Messrs.

Alkenbrack,	Marchand (*Kamloops-Cariboo*),	Perrault,
Éthier,	Mather,	Robinson,
Gillespie,	McCutcheon,	Rochon,
Gundlock,	Paproski,	Rodrigue,
Laniel,	Peddle,	Stewart (*Marquette*),
LeBlanc (*Rimouski*),	Penner,	Thomson (*Battleford-Kindersley*)—20.

(Quorum 11)

Gabrielle Savard,
Clerk of the Committee.

(*Text*)

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

THURSDAY, November 7, 1968.
(2)

The Standing Committee on Miscellaneous Estimates met this date at 11.07 o'clock a.m. The Chairman, Mr. Fernand E. Leblanc, presided.

Members present: Messrs. Éthier, Laniel, Leblanc (*Laurier*), LeBlanc (*Rimouski*), Mather, McCutcheon, Paproski, Peddle, Penner, Robinson, Rodrigue, Thomson (*Battleford-Kindersley*)—(12).

In attendance: Representing the Public Service Commission: Mr. J. J. Carson, Chairman; Mr. M. B. Caron, Director of Language Training; Mr. R. F. Smith, Director of Administration; Mr. G. G. Duclos, Director General, Staff Development and Training; Mr. A. R. K. Anderson, Director General of Staffing.

The Chairman informed the Committee that Messrs. McCutcheon, Mather, Robinson and Rodrigue were appointed to act with the Chairman and the Vice-Chairman on the subcommittee on Agenda and Procedure.

The Subcommittee's First Report was presented as follows:

"The Subcommittee recommends:

1. That the Committee meet once a week on Thursdays, from 11.00 a.m. to 12.30 p.m.
2. That the estimates of the Public Service Commission be considered first, followed by the item relating to the Company of Young Canadians."

On motion of Mr. Laniel, seconded by Mr. Mather,

Agreed,—That the First Report of the subcommittee be adopted, subject to the approval of the Coordinating Committee for the time of sittings.

The Committee proceeded to the consideration of the items listed in the Revised Main Estimates for 1968-69 relating to the Public Service Commission.

Vote 80—Salaries and contingencies, etc. .....$13,391,200 was called.

Mr. Carson made a preliminary statement explaining the basic functions of the Commission. He answered questions of the Members.

It was agreed that a list of the families who participated in the exchange program of one year of language training, indicating the number of persons involved and other particulars be sent to the Clerk for distribution to the Members of the Committee.

29128—1½

Mr. Caron gave supplementary information with reference to the language training program.

Agreed,—That copies of the Commission's Annual Report be distributed to the Members of the Committee.

The questioning continuing, Vote 80 was allowed to stand.

At 12.20 p.m. the Committee adjourned to 9.30 a.m. Friday, November 15, to consider Vote 48 relating to the Company of Young Canadians, as the Chairman of the Public Service Commission has a previous engagement on that day.

Gabrielle Savard,
Clerk of the Committee.

EVIDENCE

(Recorded by Electronic Apparatus)

Thursday, November 7, 1968

• 1107

The Chairman: Gentlemen, I see a quorum. I wish to announce first the names of the members who have been appointed to the Subcommittee on Agenda and Procedure to act with the Chairman and the Vice Chairman.

(See Minutes of Proceedings)

We are now going to proceed with our regular business.

Public Service Commission

80. Salaries and Contingencies of the Commission including compensation in accordance with the Incentive Award Plan of the Public Service of Canada, and the Public Service Bilingual and Bicultural Development Program $13,391,200

• 1110

I would like at this point to welcome the officials of the Public Service Commission who are prepared to answer your questions. On my right are Mr. Carson, Mr. Caron, Mr. Anderson, Mr. Smith and Mr. Duclos, Mr. Carson, as you all know of course, is the Chairman of the Public Service Commission; Mr. Smith is Director of Administration; Mr. Caron is Director of Language Training; Mr. Duclos is Director General, Staff Development and Training and Mr. Anderson is Director General of Staffing. Now, if you have any questions to ask these officials of the Commission you may go ahead.

Mr. Robinson: Is there a general statement to be made by the Chairman of the Commission at this time?

Mr. J. J. Carson (Chairman, Public Service Commission): I will be happy to, Mr. Chairman. I welcome the opportunity to try and explain briefly what the Commission is, particularly for the benefit of new members of the House. The present Commission was established with the passage of the Public Service Employment Act in March of 1967. It was the sucessor to the old Civil Service Commission which had been in existence since 1919. It is a three-man commission, and its normal practice in recent years has been to have my two colleagues one a French-speaking Commissioner and the third a female.

The Commission operates as an independent agency reporting to Parliament on its activities. It is charged with the statutory responsibility for making all appointments to the Public Service for which there is no other appointing authority provided. Our constituency covers roughly 200,000 positions that we are responsible for making appointments to.

The Public Service Employment Act also charges us with advising and assisting departments in the establishment of training and development programs. These cover a wide range of activities all the way from management training down to skill training. Probably the largest training contribution is the work we are currently doing in the field of language training. As you will have noticed from our estimates this assumes almost half of our total budget. It is a major undertaking that we have mushroomed over the last three years into a production line, where we have about 5,000 public servants undergoing language training at the present time, both in English and in French.

We are also charged by our Act with hearing appeals from employees who feel they have been unfairly dealt with in the making of promotions or appointments. It is not possible to appeal against appointments that have been made through competitions open to the general public, but they are given the right in legislation to appeal against decisions that have been made on closed competitions or appointments that have been made without competition. This, Mr. Chairman, is our basic function.

If you have looked at our estimates you will have seen that we tried to contain our expenses this year. A decision was made not to proceed with an expansion in the language training program for the current fiscal year and to try to maintain our level of instruction at the level we reached last year. We have done this through the use of improved techniques and by developing our own competence and experience in the language training business.

I think we have actually been able to produce more impressive results, even within the money limitations of this past year, than we did the year before. We are hopeful that it will be government policy to increase the money available to us for language training in the next fiscal year. However, we have sustained ourselves at the present level.

• 1115

Some increase in expenditure was necessary in the Staffing Branch because we are going through a very interesting period. The new piece of legislation authorized the Commission to delegate some of its staffing authority out to deputy heads in departments across the country, the objective being to try to get staffing decisions made as close to the place where people live and work as is possible, thereby reducing a great deal of the red tape and delay that has normally been associated with the appointment process of the Public Service. We are in the process of doing this, of delegating our appointing authority out to the departments.

However, as a precursor to the delegation of the appointing authority it was necessary to undergo a crash program in the development of selection standards and instruments of delegation. So that at the same time we delegated we could report back to Parliament each year that appointments under the merit principle were being sustained, and that we had provided the means by which appointments could be delegated without jeopardizing the merit principle. This required us to increase our staff in the Staffing Branch for a temporary period in order to develop the selection standards, the tools and techniques for delegation out to the departments. We expect the size of the Staffing Branch to start reducing by April 1 of next year. Mr. Chairman, perhaps that is enough background information.

The Chairman: Thank you very much, Mr. Carson. I have on my list Mr. Penner and then Mr. Laniel.

Mr. Penner: Mr. Chairman I am most interested in the language training program offered by the Public Service Commission. As a new Member of Parliament I am involved, or I am going to be involved very shortly, in language training. I am not sure whether this comes under your Commission or whether it is something extraneous to it.

However, I do understand that in language training there are three levels. A beginner who has no familiarity with the language starts off at level one and through a number of hours instruction, hopefully, he eventually emerges at level three which makes him, I understand, reasonably bilingual.

Quite recently during an Air Canada flight I read an article in some magazine, I cannot remember which one it was, somebody was reporting on the success of the language training program. I cannot quote the figure I read but it seems to me it was extremely low and a rather discouraging figure of those who actually, starting out in level one reach level three. The writer of this article seemed to imply that the efforts on the part of the Public Service Commission to raise people from level one to level three were rather discouraging.

This interested me very much because I realize how important it is that those in the Public Service Commission, as well as Members of Parliament should aim in the direction of bilingualism. I would be most interested if someone from your Commission could comment on the success of the program as you see it to date.

Mr. Carson: We will be happy to, and I will ask Mr. Caron to speak to this directly in a few minutes. I presume it is Christina Newman writing in *Saturday Night* that you are referring to.

Mr. Penner: Yes.

• 1120

Mr. Carson: When we got into the language training business in late 1964 or early 1965, we really did not know how best to tackle this job. Here we were trying to undertake a massive program of adult education, and without any real know-how about the most effective technique to use on it.

The decision was made to start out with one hour a day language training classes. It seemed the least disruptive to the workload of the departments. We also, of course, were facing the fact that we had a mature, largely Anglo-Saxon workforce who were being dragged, if you will forgive me, perhaps skeptically, some of them even kicking and screaming, into this. To get people to put their foot into the language training business by the one hour a day route, I think, psychologically was probably the best way to go at it, but it proved to be terribly inefficient.

One hour a day is just not enough of an exposure to be able to build on a continuous

basis. We were trying to train old ears and old mouths to learn new skills and new muscles and one hour a day was just not satisfactory. We also ran into the problem, of course, that public servants have peak loads in their work experience which meant that sustained attendance at language training could not be counted on.

After a good deal of experimenting last year we moved over into the immersion-type program, both complete and partial. The partial immersion being roughly 12 hours a day—8.30 to 8.30—and the complete immersion being 24 hours a day in which you live right in the school. We take people off the job for periods of two to three weeks and put them into the immersion course. The results we are getting from this are vastly more impressive than the results we were able to report to Christina Newman on the basis of our hour-a-day efforts over the last three and four years. We are very hopeful that through the immersion-type training we are going to be able to accelerate the progress in a way that will not be discouraging and disheartening as Mrs. Newman's figures would reflect.

Probably the most encouraging results we are achieving are with the young administrative trainees and young foreign service officers whom we bring in from university and put right into language training as soon as they arrive in Ottawa. They are at the peak of their learning capacity and we find that they can make the language breakthrough at a much faster rate than people of my age.

Marcel, would you have any additional comments to make?

Mr. Paproski: I have a supplementary question I would like to ask before Mr. Caron starts to comment, Mr. Carson, if I may.

My question deals with your total immersion course which you were just discussing. Who decides whether a public servant should take a total immersion or a partial immersion course and what bracket of public servant does he have to be in order to take this total immersion course? Does this include the complete family? I noticed in an article about this course published in *Weekend* some three or four months ago that you were sending a complete family into an area to learn French and sending the French family into an area to learn English, which I think is wonderful. Does your Department look after the expenses for this course?

Mr. Carson: We do, indeed. The second program to which you referred is a very small program limited to 20 families going to Quebec City each year and 10 families going to Toronto each year. We view it as something separate and apart from the language training program and are calling it our Bilingual and Bicultural Development Program because our intentiin is to have the families that go to Quebec City or to Toronto actually able to cope with the language before they go. This was not true in the first year we experimented with this and we found that the families we sent were limited really in the cultural experience they got from it because of their communication barrier in not comprehending the language as thoroughly as they might.

• 1125

We are now trying to make sure that the families that go on this cultural exchange program, if you want, are up to the third level of language capacity before they go. Only in this situation are we underwriting the cost of families. We are not extending language training to wives and children of public servants other than those in whom we are going to make this major investment by sending them to Quebec City or to Toronto for a year. In those cases we are underwriting the full expense of the total family unit during the year they are in Toronto or Quebec City, but this is only for 30 families a year.

The selection criteria are pretty extreme. We are really starting at the top of the Public Service and will work slowly down. The objective is to have some of our most senior officers—deputy ministers and others—take this kind of very complete immersion, not only in the language but in the culture as well.

Mr. Paproski: Mr. Chairman, I would like to ask Mr. Carson if he could give us some idea of the number of people who have taken this course. You said there have been only 30 families a year. Is there any way you could document these people for us so that we can have some idea who has taken this course in the last four or five years?

Mr. Carson: It has only been operating for three years.

Mr. Paproski: For the three years, then.

The Chairman: Would you have that in your records with you?

Mr. Carson: I would not be able to give you a listing right here. I could send it.

The Chairman: Could you forward it to my office or could you send it to the Clerk of this Committee who could circulate a copy of your letter to the members of the Committee. Would that be satisfactory?

Mr. Paproski: I have one further supplementary question. You did not say who selected these people.

Mr. Carson: I am sorry. The selection of the 30 families has been primarily the responsibility of the special secretariat established in the Prime Minister's office a couple of years ago. They have taken the co-ordinating responsibility for calling for nominations from ministers or deputy ministers which then go before a screening committee on which the Public Service Commission is represented and on which we are represented in two ways.

A senior representative of the Language Bureau sits on the committee to advise on the pedagogical efficacy of taking this particular family versus another family. We also have a member of our executive staffing program sitting on this selection committee to advise whether at this stage in this individual's career development this is the most appropriate person to take on this experience.

I must be very frank with you gentlemen, we did have some individuals in the first year or two who really were at a stage of their career where there just was not very much point in investing this amount of money in their further career development. We also had some individuals who were not as seriously motivated as others and we also had some wives who were not seriously motivated.

The selection committee is now taking a look at the nominees with a view to determining not only if the individual's career potential is such that it is worth investing such an amount of money, but also if his wife is sufficiently enthusiastic about this that she will not be a drag on the operation and, third, if this is the appropriate time in his career for him to be doing this.

Mr. Paproski: Thank you, Mr. Carson. I have only one more question. Do they work while they are taking this immersion course?

• 1130

Mr. Carson: While they are at Laval University?

Mr. Paproski: Yes, for that whole year.

Mr. Carson: It is totally at university and very very tough.

Mr. Paproski: Do they work in their own field?

Mr. Carson: No, never. They are totally away from their own field of work.

Mr. Paproski: I see. So this is a vacation with pay, you could say.

Mr. Carson: They get outraged when this suggestion is made. Most of those to whom I have talked on the occasional visit are in a state of complete exhaustion all the time. They say they are working longer hours and trying to do a post graduate level course at Laval University in a language that is not their own. Many of them are getting to the stage where the university is using them to lecture in their own particular field of expertise—economics, and so on. Last year we had Dr. Chapman, the head of our telecommunications effort, who lectured in physics and science at Laval University. The business of preparing lectures in a language that is not your own as well as taking lectures in a language that is not your own is a pretty strenuous performance, added to which, of course, they are having to turn around and coach their kids late at night in homework in a language that is not the kids' own language. They maintain that this is about the most strenuous year that any of them have put in.

So, I think if you call it a sabbatical with pay, that is fine, but if you call it a vacation with pay, that would be very unrealistic.

Mr. Paproski: Would you say, Mr. Carson, that a Member of Parliament who comes here to serve his people could with his family between sessions, be part of this Public Service program and be immersed for two or three months in Quebec City? Do you think this would be a worthy gesture on the part of the Public Service Commission?

Mr. Carson: We have not explored this two or three months business in any serious way, as yet. This has been a one-year program to coincide with the academic year of the universities involved. Whether we should start exploring the possibility of having Laval and some of the Anglo-Saxon universities arrange a special program to coincide with the adjournment or recess of the House, the Commission is here to serve you gentlemen. We are the administrators of training programs that Parliament and the government decide on.

Mr. Paproski: Thank you, Mr. Carson.

The Chairman: Possibly we could try that with the members of the Committee. We could maybe start something for three months.

Thank you, Mr. Carson. I will come back to you when Mr. Penner's question has been answered.

Mr. Carson: Yes, that will be fine.

The Chairman: I understand Mr. Caron is going to make some comments.

Mr. Robinson: I had a supplementary question to Mr. Paproski's questions. Would it be in order for me to ask my question?

The Chairman: Yes, if it is a supplementary.

Mr. Robinson: I wonder if there is any supplement paid to these people who go on the immersion course since you indicated they worked at it 24 hours a day and it was a very tough grind. Do they get paid anything extra?

Mr. Carson: So far we have avoided this and we hope to continue to avoid it.

Mr. Robinson: Would I assume that the incentive they have in taking it is because all members of the Public Service receive a 7 per cent increment when they become proficient in a second language?

Mr. Carson: No, the 7 per cent pay bonus for bilingualism is limited solely to secretaries, stenographers and typists. Gentlemen, this was a very pragmatic decision that the Treasury Board took on the recommendation of the Public Service Commission. We have opposed the introduction of a supplementary pay plan for bilingualism except in this one area where to compete in the marketplace we found we had to do it because an increasing number of employers—outside employers—who were trying to buck up their language capability were paying a bilingual bonus for typists, secretaries and stenographers. After surveying the practises throughout the country the Commission did recommend to the government that a 7 per cent pay differential for typists, stenographers and secretaries would be justified where they had to use the language for at least a defined portion of each day. However, we have recommended again and so far the Treasury Board has seen fit to reject any suggestion that there should be a pay bonus for people in the administrative, professional, scientific and foreign service categories because our objective is to have, ultimately, a bilingual Public Service. So, if the objective is to have everybody at this stage at some time—everybody in those areas where it can be used—there really is not much justification for starting out with a bonus arrangement that ultimately everyone would end up having, that is a 7 per cent higher salary than their outside counterpart.

• 1135

Mr. Robinson: Mr. Chairman, I have a further supplementary, if I may and I have a sort of preamble to my question. When I first arrived here as a new Member of Parliament I requested that I be assigned a bilingual secretary. I was unable to obtain one because I was late in arriving and they were rather scarce and so on. However, I subsequently followed this up—I have a good secretary and I have nothing to say against her—and found out that there is no program for secretaries to Members of Parliament to learn to speak French. I wonder why there is no such program and if one is being contemplated because as a new Member of Parliament who wishes to learn the second language, I found that my secretary would not be allowed to take such a course even though I were to take one which would be somewhat of a hindrance. Do you have any programs of this nature contemplated at the present time?

Mr. Carson: It will be some years before we have the resources to take on the clerical field. This, of course, is another very pragmatic reason why we recommended the payment of a 7 per cent bonus to try to infuse a greater number of people into the Ottawa area and to hold on to those whom we did have. The priorities that have been laid down by the government for language training follow roughly in this order, that we start down through the administrative and foreign service officer categories. This is a group of about 14,000. We are also giving top priority to professional and scientific employees who find themselves in a position where they can supervise both unilingual French and unilingual English technicians or junior scientists at the same location. This is a funny little quirk in our order of priority, but I think you will see, perhaps, the practical advantages of it.

This has created a lot of frustration for people who are at the bottom levels of these categories who feel that their promotions in the next few years, particularly after 1975,

could easily be influenced by whether they have dual language capacity or not and who feel that if they cannot be provided with the facilities for training that it is unfair to jeopardize their promotional opportunities. Our only answer is that we are providing the facilities just as fast as the money and resources will enable us to do so. We now have 5,000 people under language training of some kind or another. We hope this will increase with added money to 7,000 by next year. Is that correct, Marcel?

Mr. M. B. Caron (Director of Language Training, Public Service Commission): Possibly only by one thousand more next year, but by a couple of thousand the year after.

Mr. Carson: It is gradually increasing and as we perfect our training methods and get people in and out of language training faster, hopefully we will be moving faster and faster down the population that needs to be trained.

We are going to be recommending to the government that perhaps they should be willing to subsidize language training taken at universities and night schools by such people as your secretary, on their own, because obviously it is going to be some time before we can accommodate them in the classroom facilities that we have.

That was a very long answer to your question, sir.

Mr. Laniel: I have a supplementary question on this. I do not want to generalize, but I think of Ottawa as the central operation of governmental administration. Am I correct in saying that at this stage the interdepartmental administration, especially when you consider that the bonus is paid only to secretaries and so on, is limited to unilingual communications? As a Member of Parliament I realize that if I write to a department I get a very much quicker answer if I write in English because the reply does not have to be translated. I have the impression that if I write in French, even to a French-speaking high level Public Servant, my letter in French will still go to translation and there is a chance that he will reply to me in English which will then go back to translation before I receive it. Is that the right assumption?

• 1140

Mr. Carson: It is pretty hard to generalize on this. The situation is changing faster than a lot of us thought it would change. An increasing number of departments are sufficiently well-staffed now in both languages that correspondence and inquiries will be dealt with in the original language and the reply will go back without ever going through the process of translation. In my own small agency, I think it is fair to say that we are now equipped so that almost everything is dealt with in the original language in which it came to us whether it is French or English. But it would be misleading for me to suggest that this is always the case or that some departments do not have a greater problem in this area than others do, particularly those that are scientific or engineering oriented. We have not had the same success in years past in recruiting people with French language capacity to the scientific and engineering oriented departments, but it is improving every day.

Mr. Laniel: I am not blaming any one, I just asked the question because when you speak of language there is also the question of motivation. I think there is a great chance that if Mr. Caron from Quebec writes to you in Ottawa or even to any one who has taken an immersion course he will write to you in English. This is where, I hope, with time there will be correspondence between people of the two languages in either one of the languages so that they can benefit at both ends by making the day to-day effort. This could be a wonderful opportunity for a person who has taken an immersion course to use the other language in his day-to-day work. otherwise he is going to lose it.

Mr. Carson: This is one of the very real practical problems we have to face and I can only assure you that we are all sensitive to it. Every department now is equipped with a bilingual advisor. This is a new post that has been established within the last couple of years and the job of that individual is to search around within the activities of the department to try to find ways and means of reinforcing the language training that people have received at Mr. Caron's hand and to try to find enclaves within departments where the work will take place within the French language. Hopefully, this is going to grow and grow and build and build. Nothing is translated that comes into my office any longer. A year ago everything was automatically translated. Now, with the help of a Francophone executive assistant I am struggling with all the written communications in either language—whichever it originates in—and we just do not use the translation service in my

own office. I would be misleading you, again, if I suggested this was consistent throughout the Commission, but this is our objective.

Mr. Laniel: That is what I appreciate.

Mr. Carson: We want to make sure that we put the translators out of business.

Mr. Robinson: May I ask a supplementary, Mr. Chairman?

• 1145

The Chairman: I think, Mr. Robinson, that Mr. Penner was the first one to ask a question. We have been going for quite a long time, but he still has not received his answer. I think we should come back to Mr. Penner and finish up whatever he wants to ask. Then we can carry on with others who want to ask questions, if you do not mind.

Mr. Carson: Mr. Caron, I suggested you might be able to amplify some of the details of our language training program.

Mr. Caron: I think this is the first time that any organization has attempted to develop a program or to try to meet the needs of such a vast population looking for improvement in their abilities or skills in a language other than their mother tongue. The results of such a program are always conditioned by a tremendous number of parameters in any program that we do. The net results are difficult to analyse as we go along and it will be some time before we can come up with an identification of the total results.

Anyone who comes into a classroom or into any type of program that we offer to public servants is conditioned, first of all, by his motivation to learn that language; by his age; by the continued interest that he will put into it; by the professional tuition, of course, that he will get; by the type of tested reinforcement we can provide to him as he is going through this leaning process and in between periods of actual classroom situations or other methods of learning by the personal efforts that he himself puts into the program by searching for all types of means to either practice the language that he is learning or conditioning himself to be subjected to it if he is concerned with understanding the dimension of the language. There are a tremendous number of conditions that we are surrounded by, some of which are always present and which condition the results. We are quite sure of the professional tuition that we are providing which we are trying to improve in all types of programs so that language learning might be speeded up, but we will always have these other dimensions which will condition the results.

As Mr. Carson has pointed out, the new approach we have now—putting the emphasis on using intensive types of programs—is promising a much better result than we had ever envisaged before. Even in the limited period of time that we have used this method, we are quite sure of this and I think in a year from now we will be quite proud to produce these results. We will continue to search for ways and means to perfect what we are doing in language tuition and to improve it and find new means. We have to look for them because they do not exist in any other place. There has never been such a program on such an intensive and large scale done by anyone, that is, teaching another language to a group of adults—a vast number of adults—engaged in very responsible roles and, particularly, in a public administration which is going through a period of very significant change.

So, we have all of these conditions and we are, of course, pioneering in many, many fields. It is very difficult to compare what we are doing with other types of programs because this is a unique program and it is so vast that we have to be patient in analysing our results and in assuring ourselves that we are moving in the right direction.

[*Interpretation*]

Mr. Laniel: Can I ask a question to Mr. Caron?

The Chairman: A supplementary?

Mr. Laniel: Yes, it is in connection with what has just been said.

The Chairman: Mr. Laniel.

Mr. Laniel: First of all, Mr. Caron, I believe that it is not a matter of money essentially. It seems to me that you want to know where you are going. You might have a lot of money, you need professors, you need premises, you must not make mistakes and, as you go on, you must know where you stand. But, did you think also that in order to follow-up the immersion courses, that the Departments might perhaps accept that these people who just came out of the immersion courses in Quebec or in Toronto be assigned to work one or two years, in their own field. Departments having a French-speaking envi-

ronment. For instance, let's say an English-speaking person could work in Montreal for the Department of Public Works, so that when he comes back here to Ottawa, he would have an additional year's practical experience in his own field.

• 1150

Mr. Caron: Well, there you are touching on an area which is somewhat beyond my own responsibility. But, at any rate, we encourage the bilingual advisers we have in our Departments who precisely are there to see that in the administration of the personnel, in the realization of the programs, most of those who take part in our programs, are given the opportunity to use the second language and to go on practicing it, and at least to be in an environment where they can—if not use the language—at least hear it.

This staff availability comes under the hiring of personnel in Departments, which is a field wherein the Public Service Alliance also plays a very significant part. I am sure that Mr. Carson could give you a better explanation on this. While we are teaching a language to a civil servant we encourage the bilingual advisers and we are permanently in touch with them, so that within the Department, they have a possibility to put our programs into practice.

[*English*]

Mr. Mather: Mr. Chairman, I have been very much impressed by the immensity of the task which faces the Commission in this language training project, both in regard to the difficulties encountered by those who are encouraging the learning and use of two languages in the Public Service, and something I had not personally thought of very much before, the problems that exist after the languages are learned and the employees are back in their departments. So now it is necessary to appoint officials to see that use is made of the additional language, as I understand the explanation. The task involved and shouldered by the Commission impresses me very much.

I have just one or two quick questions. I do not know whether, from a statistical point of view, we could be given an approximate estimate of the per capita cost for public servants in the language training program, in regard to the training and facilities needed and all other aspects.

The Chairman: Mr. Caron, do you have those statistics?

Mr. Carson: We have had to come to grips with this problem and use calculations of these kind to try to decide how we were going to divide our resources amongst the hour a day, two hours a day, three hours a day, or full-time immersion courses. I hope, Mr. Caron, that you have some figures handy that will be useful.

Mr. Caron: Yes, an analysis was made of the various types of courses just for that purpose of deciding where the emphasis should be put. In evening courses, for instance, for what we call a unit of learning, that is, one level, the cost amounted to $501 per student. Of course that is without the salary of the individual being brought into the picture, and it does not come into the picture for these types of courses because there is no salary paid.

A unit of learning in complete immersion is about five weeks, and with the salary taken into consideration the cost comes to approximately $2100, and without the salary to $1241, per student for a unit of learning.

Mr. Carson: Mr. Chairman, I wonder if to help Mr. Mather we could ask Mr. Caron to elaborate further on this unit of learning. Let us take an individual from absolute ignorance through the levels. How many levels are going to be required to get him up to a level where he can do business in both languages? Will it be six?

Mr. Caron: Not less than three, and to be quite proficient it ought to be four to five levels. We have no definite and absolute answer on this because we are still experimenting. No one has ever done this before. However, let us say, that for the ability to participate in discussions like this; each using his own language; being able to understand someone addressing him in a language other than his mother tongue; being able to answer; even conceptualizing the language; the end of our third level, as we call it now, in a general context type of approach, would be satisfactory.

• 1155

However, when we move into the professional language, the technical language and when we have to move into the written language in these fields, then we have to add at least two other units.

Mr. Mather: Mr. Chairman, am I to understand it would cost approximately $5,000 per capita for proficiency?

Mr. Caron: For the three units.

Mr. Mather: For the units involved, thank you. I have one other question. Of those public servants involved so far in language training, what percentage were English-speaking and what percentage would be French-speaking?

Mr. Carson: These figures are embarrassing because it was the Anglo-Saxons who needed the training.

Mr. Mather: I appreciate that, I just want to get the picture.

Mr. Caron: Generally speaking, I think at least 80 per cent of our resources are devoted towards teaching the French language.

Mr. Mather: I will have other questions later on in regard to another phase of the work.

The Chairman: We will come back to Mr. Robinson.

Mr. Robinson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. My supplementary has to do with a term we have been bandying about all morning, namely "immersion". I am not just sure exactly what is meant by this. It seems to me if you are learning a language there is, speaking, writing, and reading, each of which involves vocabulary and so on. To my mind it seemed the immersion course was basically concerned with speaking the language, and I am wondering if we could be given some information on how the course is operated, what it involves, and where the concentration actually is?

Mr. Carson: I do not know which would be most helpful to you, for me to give you the student's answer or for you to hear from the professor?

Mr. Robinson: Maybe both would be in order.

• 1200

Mr. Carson: The great problem with language training in the historic sense in this country has been that the Anglo-Saxon learned French as a dead language. He learned it in the way he learned Latin or anything else. He did not learn to speak it. At least this is true in the Western Provinces of the country, and for our age group in Ontario as well. So our biggest effort has had to be devoted to helping to achieve a speaking and listening capacity with the language. We have hired very, very few people into the Public Service who do not have some capacity to read the French language, but the really serious difficulty has been to train the ear and the voice. Consequently, the method selected for the first degree of language training was the Voix et Image de France which is a method conducted entirely by ear and by voice with no written material available at all. We had to really unlearn a great deal of—to borrow the kids' words—the hang-ups we had with the written French, the grammar and the vocabulary. We have really had to train people to learn to speak almost as you do a two-year-old child.

When you get into the second degree language training then, of course, it moves into a more advanced stage. I am not out of the second degree stage yet so I cannot elaborate on the mysteries of the third degree. However, it becomes very much more of a written and writing proposition.

Speaking about immersion, what we are doing is taking an individual and putting him into a totally French-speaking environment for 12 hours or 24 hours a day in which he hears nothing but the French language. He takes his meals in French, his relaxation breaks are watching French television. The whole day from 8.30 in the morning until 8.30 at night is spent in the second language. Not a single word or instruction is permitted in the school in the first language.

Mr. McCutcheon: I shall try to be brief. How large a staff is there for instruction?

Mr. Caron: At the present time we have approximately, adding together the permanent teachers and the part-time teachers we are using to meet the demand, I would say 185 teaching staff.

Mr. McCutcheon: And students?

Mr. Caron: We have now, at any one time in the classroom, 675 students.

Mr. McCutcheon: Six hundred and seventy-five. I want to be perfectly clear on this; we are estimating a cost of $2100 for each of these 675?

Mr. Caron: Per unit of learning. The 675 are the number who are in a classroom on any one day.

Mr. McCutcheon: Hopefully they are going to have a unit of learning, are they not?

Mr. Cameron: Yes.

Mr. McCutcheon: So the cost is $2100 for each one of them?

Mr. Caron: For one unit.

Mr. McCutcheon: Yes, for a unit of learning; I want to be quite clear. Have there been cases in your experience where exchange people—I am thinking of this specific group Mr. Carson mentioned who go to Toronto and to Quebec—have actually failed to assimilate in this course?

Mr. Caron: That is a very difficult question to answer. You would have the feedback from the departments, Mr. Carson, which I do not have.

• 1205

Mr. Carson: The first year we ran this course it was an experimental venture, it was mounted quickly and we only sent nine families to Quebec City. I have to confess to you that there were two families with whom it did not "take". However, the selections were done quickly, the Prime Minister had announced the program in April, I think, and we had to find families who were willing to go on short notice to get them there for July 1. I think there were two families about whom we would have to say it was a mistake to have sent them. I think this would be their own confession as well.

In the second year the selections were much better, and we have every confidence that the group we have there this year are all going to "take", and it is going to be a worthwhile experience.

Mr. McCutcheon: What happens to the failures?

Mr. Carson: They returned to their normal duties in the Public Service. We did not shoot them or...

Mr. McCutcheon: Are they penalized as far as further advancement is concerned? This is basically what I want to know.

Mr. Carson: In both cases the two individuals concerned really did not have any future ahead of them in the Public Service. I suspect this was part of the motivational problem. They were really a little too old to have gone. It was a selection error that we have profited from, and hopefully this kind of individual will never be selected again. The majority, I think almost the total group there this year are people who still have very productive and important careers potentially open to them. They are people at the assistant deputy minister level or the level just below assistant deputy minister.

Mr. McCutcheon: Recently in the newspapers there was some reference to a facility at Smiths Falls?

Mr. Carson: Yes.

Mr. McCutcheon: Who takes the course down there?

Mr. Carson: This is a different program which is deisgned to produce a new kind of manager in the Public Service. It is the first step in what we call our career assignment program. The candidates for the career assignment program are nominated from their parent department to undertake a combination three-month in residence course, which currently is being conducted in a motel in Smiths Falls, and then to engage in a planned series of job rotations which will take them out of the narrow confines of their career pattern up to this time and test them in a totally different kind of career to broaden their experience. Each of these rotations will be of about two years' duration.

For example, a young staffing officer in the Public Service Commission would have his first career assignment in a line operating job in another department to make sure that he learns to use both the muscles of an advisor and the muscles of an administrator. The objective being that after a series of these rotational assignments we will have produced a breed of manager who can not only provide good policy advice within his department but who can also exhibit the skills and strength of a manager.

I think many of us have felt, and of course this was the burden of the Glassco Report, that the Public Service has been very fortunate in the quality of minds it has had. It has not always been fortunate in the quality of managers it has had within the Public Service ranks. This is a deliberate effort now to try to take the economist, the engineer, the scientist, the sociologist, the lawyer, who has the potential to some day become an assistant deputy minister or a director general, and make sure, before he is so far along in his career stream that it is difficult to use new muscles, that he learnes the skills of an administrator.

• 1210

The first step is a three-month in-residence program where we are trying to take these very promising people with high potential and give them the administrative know-how that is perhaps the equivalent of an abridged Master of Business Administration at Harvard or the University of Western Ontario.

Mr. McCutcheon: In other words this is not directly language?

Mr. Carson: No, indeed, there is no language component involved in this except that by 1970 we intend this course to be conducted in a bilingual fashion. Each student will participate in his mother tongue and will be expected to understand what everybody else is saying in their mother tongue. We are not doing this yet because one has to be realistic about it, and in the Public Service we have not put enough people through language training to be able to produce 35 candidates three times a year with this capacity.

Mr. McCutcheon: I have one further very brief question. At page 461 in the Blue Book there is an item for accommodation provided by the Department of Public Works involving $771,400 for 1967-68 and $2,537,200 for 1968-69.

Mr. Carson: Right.

Mr. McCutcheon: What?

Mr. Carson: This was a one-time expenditure. We were in the fortunate position of being able to acquire College Marie Médiatrice, up on Fairy Lake Road in Hull from the Bishop of Hull. This was a church college that was being phased out of operation. It was still in excellent shape. It was beautifully adaptable to our massive language training program, which we were conducting in rented quarters all over the city, which we had acquired for this one hour a day kind of training. When we faced the fact that we were going to be moving to immersion-type training it made all the sense in the world to accommodate as many students as we could in one central facility which would have dormitory facilities, recreational facilities and lounge room facilities for people whom we were going to lock up for 24 hours a day. This represents a large chunk of this figure.

Another part of it, of course, is the fact that after what seemed like a hundred years in the old Jackson Building the Department of Public Works finally took pity on the poor old Public Service Commission and moved us into spanking new quarters in Tower A next door to the Skyline Hotel.

[*Interpretation*]

The Chairman: Mr. Carson, are all those people, such as the 10 Francophones who will live in Toronto and the 10 Anglophones who will go to Quebec, and all those who take our immersion courses, do they commit themselves to stay in the Public Service for a certain time? At least, to recover the amount which has been expended on them?

[*English*]

Mr. Carson: The quick answer to you, sir, is that we hope all public servants are committed to a lifetime of service to their country. This has not been a question or a problem in respect to those career public servants who have been undergoing language training. I will be frank with you and say that we do have some reservations about the motivation of the young university students we are attracting into the service each year. As you may know, our efforts at recruitment at the various universities across the country have been enormously successful in recent years. In part, I think, this is the changing climate of young people's attitudes. More and more of them are opting out of business and industry and wanting to do something identified with the public weal.

In any event, we have a very large number of university students joining us each year. We have been taking advantage of the fact that our language training facilities are difficult to use at full production during the summer months, because of normal public servants being off on vacation, to dump the young university graduates into language training as soon as they arrive in Ottawa.

• 1215

We have heard rumours, hopefully it is one or two but you know what these things are, of young people who have come to us and said: The federal government is prepared to give language training; this is something I would like to have; I will come and join the Public Service for a few months; get language training and then quit to go and do something else. Actually our turnover statistics on the hiring of young university students has not seriously changed since we started this program of giving language training. We are still losing about 10 per cent at the end of the first year and this tends to be about the experience of other major employers. So

although we do not get people to sign a written statement of intention, our feeling is that people are not taking advantage of our language training facility and then quitting to do other things.

There will be turnover, and I am quite sure that some of you as Members of Parliament will hear the parent of some youngster say: Jimmy got a really good deal; he came and took language training and then went off and got a great big job with General Motors. Well, that will happen. I think it is one of the risks any employer takes in spending any money on training. However, we are not worried about this as a serious drain.

The Chairman: Gentlemen, I have five more questioners on my list and I just wonder if we could not stand Item 80 for the time being and adjourn until next Friday, unless we are sure we can complete our work by 12.30. I do not believe we can because this is a very interesting subject. We may as well adjourn until next Friday and carry on then. I will pick up these speakers on the list I have here.

Mr. Robinson: Mr. Chairman, before we quit for the day I was wondering if everybody could be provided with the Annual Report of the Public Service Commission of Canada? I received a copy which I specifically requested. I have been through it, and I have numerous questions to ask and we have not even started on it yet. However, I think they are all germane to consideration of the estimates and to helping us learn more about the Commission.

The Chairman: Mr. Carson, would it be possible for the Commission to make additional copies of your Report available?

Mr. Carson: Of course, yes, Mr. Chairman.

The Chairman: So that every member of this Committee will be provided and by next Friday they will have done some homework.

Mr. Carson: Mr. Chairman, I am due to participate in a conference on Canadian unity next Friday. Is there any alternative day that you could suggest?

The Chairman: Would any other day next week suit you?

Mr. Carson: Thursday and Friday I will be away out of town.

The Chairman: You will be away Thursday and Friday?

Mr. Carson: Yes. If the Committee so orders I...

Mr. Peddle: If I might ask a question to avoid some duplication later on, Mr. Carson is goint to supply the Committee with a list of families who participated in this exchange since its inception?

The Chairman: Yes.

Mr. Peddle: I was wondering if he might include in that list the number of people in each family; the position held in the Public Service by each head of family; some indication in each case of the success achieved, and the total price tag in each case.

Mr. Carson: Yes.

The Chairman: Next Friday, we could go on with the Company of Young Canadians and come back to the Public Service Commission whenever Mr. Carson is free the following week.

Mr. Laniel: That is a good suggestion, Mr. Chairman.

• 1220

The Chairman: Perhaps we could do that. Friday we will carry on with a new item which will be the Company of Young Canadians. Then we can return to the Commission. Is that agreeable?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Mr. Penner: Mr. Chairman, I wonder if it could be undertaken that each member of the Committee receive a copy of the Annual Report?

The Chairman: Yes, that is settled. It will come through Miss Savard and she will mail it to you as soon she gets it from the Commission.

Thank you very much gentlemen, and Mr. Carson, and we will get together some time within 15 days.

Mr. Carson: My pleasure, Sir.

HOUSE OF COMMONS

First Session—Twenty-eighth Parliament

1968

STANDING COMMITTEE

ON

MISCELLANEOUS ESTIMATES

Chairman: Mr. FERNAND E. LEBLANC

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS AND EVIDENCE

No. 3

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 1968

Respecting

The items listed in the Revised Main Estimates for 1968-69, relating to the Company of Young Canadians.

WITNESSES:

Representing the Company of Young Canadians: Messrs. Stewart G. Goodings, Acting Director; Glen Brown, Financial Administrator; and Mrs. M. Vennat, Executive Assistant.

ROGER DUHAMEL, F.R.S.C.
QUEEN'S PRINTER AND CONTROLLER OF STATIONERY
OTTAWA, 1968

29130—1

STANDING COMMITEE

ON

MISCELLANEOUS ESTIMATES

Chairman: Mr. Fernand Leblanc

Vice-Chairman: Mr. Aurélien Noël

and Messrs.

Alkenbrack,
[1] Burton,
Éthier,
Gillespie,
Gundlock,
Laniel,
LeBlanc (*Rimouski*),
Marchand (*Kamloops-Cariboo*),
McCutcheon,
Paproski,
Peddle,
Penner,
Perrault,
Robinson,
Rochon,
Rodrigue,
Stewart (*Marquette*),
Thomson (*Battleford-Kindersley*)—20.

(Quorum 11)

Gabrielle Savard,
Clerk of the Committee.

[1] Mr. Burton replaced Mr. Mather on November 14.

ORDER OF REFERENCE

THURSDAY, November 14, 1968.

Ordered,—That the name of Mr. Burton be substituted for that of Mr. Mather on the Standing Committee on Miscellaneous Estimates.

ATTEST:

ALISTAIR FRASER,
The Clerk of the House of Commons.

29130—1½

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

FRIDAY, November 15, 1968.
(3)

The Standing Committee on Miscellaneous Estimates met this day at 9.40 o'clock a.m. The Chairman, Mr. Fernand E. Leblanc, presided.

Members present: Messrs. Burton, Gundlock, Laniel, Leblanc (*Laurier*), LeBlanc (*Rimouski*), Marchand (*Kamloops-Cariboo*), Noël, Penner, Perrault, Rochon, Rodrigue, Stewart (*Marquette*), Thomson (*Battleford-Kindersley*) (13).

Other Members present: Messrs. Allmand, Ritchie, Schumacher, and Stanbury.

In attendance: Representing the Company of Young Canadians: Messrs. Stewart G. Goodings, Acting Director; Glen Brown, Financial Administrator; and Mrs. M. Vennat, Executive Assistant.

The Committee proceeded to the consideration of the item listed in the Revised Main Estimates for 1968-69, relating to the Company of Young Canadians.

On Vote 48—Payment to the Company of
Young Canadians $1,900,000,
Mr. Goodings made a preliminary statement and was questioned thereon.

The questioning continuing, Vote 48 was allowed to stand.

At 11 o'clock a.m., the Committee adjourned to 11 o'clock a.m. Thursday, November 21, to resume study of the Estimates of the Public Service Commission.

Gabrielle Savard,
Clerk of the Committee.

EVIDENCE

(Recorded by Electronic Apparatus)

Friday, November 15, 1968

• 0940

The Chairman: Members of the Committee, I see now that we have a quorum. Notwithstanding the recommendations of the subcommittee on agenda and procedures and the resolution passed by the Committee, we will proceed this morning to the consideration of the estimates relating to the Company of Young Canadians, as the Chairman of the Public Service Commission had a previous engagement today. I will now call Vote 48.

DEPARTMENT OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE

48 Payment to the Company of Young Canadians $1,900,000

I would like to introduce the witnesses from the Company of Young Canadians; Mr. Goodings, Assistant Director; Mrs. Vennat, Executive Assistant to the Executive Director; and Mr. Glen Brown, Financial Administrator. Mr. Goodings, please proceed.

Mr. Stewart G. Goodings (Assistant Director, The Company of Young Canadians): Mr. Chairman, members of the Committee. Since this is the first time the Company of Young Canadians has appeared before a committee of Parliament, I want to express at the outset the CYC's appreciation for the opportunity of appearing before the Committee and also for the chance to make an opening statement concerning the objectives and operations of the CYC.

I have been with the Company for close to four years and I am the veteran of the organization. I believed always that one of the most exciting aspects of the CYC is the fact that it was created by Parliament. When Parliament established the Company in the summer of 1966, many people realized that it would be an experimental and controversial organization. The act itself is a unique document. It provided for a Crown corporation with a degree of flexibility and independence unknown to government departments.

Parliament also established a governing body of that organization composed of 15 members, of which 10 were to be elected by the volunteer members themselves. This in itself was a revolutionary concept in government organization.

The organization was given the task of sending young people out to engage in social and community development work within this country to help people become involved in tackling problems of poverty, inequality and discrimination. This was not to be just another "do gooding" organization. Anyone who reads the Act and the debates in the House of Commons and the Senate understands that Parliament wanted a voluntary service agency with a difference.

At present, there are 190 volunteers working in 30 projects across Canada. The volunteers receive a living allowance to cover their room and board, a personal allowance of $35 a month, medical coverage, a small book allowance per year, and a small annual clothing allowance. We also set aside $50 for every month of service, to be collected at satisfactory completion of service. The work of the volunteers is supported and supervised by a staff, some of whom work in Ottawa headquarters and others in projects in the field. The Company is governed by a Provisional Council of 15 members, all of whom were appointed by the Government. However, five of that number were first elected by the volunteers and their appointment subsequently ratified by the Government. This Council establishes policy with the staff and the volunteers implement.

In the 1965-66 fiscal year during which the idea for the Company was announced in the Speech from the Throne and a small organizing staff established in the Privy Council Office, $45,000 was spent on the CYC. During the next fiscal year, 1966-67, the amount spent on the company was $854,000. It was in this year that a pilot programme was launched of approximately 60 volunteers who were selected, trained and placed in projects across the country. The 1967-68 fiscal year

was the first full year of operations for the Company of Young Canadians. Over 250 volunteers were placed in the field and the budget was 2.4 million dollars. Last fall, the budget was cut by 20 per cent and our budget for this year, the 1968-69 fiscal year, is 1.9 million dollars.

• 0945

At the moment, approximately 40 per cent of our volunteers are involved in urban areas on housing, urban renewal and expropriation problems. Approximately 15 per cent of the volunteers are working in the area of debt counselling and family budgetting with low income families. Another 15 per cent of the volunteers work in areas of youth and education. A further 15 per cent work with Canada's native people, and approximately 15 per cent are involved in miscellaneous projects ranging from work in a self-run half-way house to involvement with handicapped people.

What approach do our volunteers use in their community work? Their objective is to help people diagnose their own problems, get organized and take action on their difficulties themselves. Their hope is to stimulate participation and involvement in community problem-solving. In doing this, they perform a number of roles. They are, at the same time, catalyst, friend, social activist, resource, information agent, enabler, et cetera.

We do not pretend and have never pretended that is is easy to help people help themselves. Often people do not want to be helped. Sometimes communities are so apathetic after years of frustration, poverty and inequality that they do not see how they can improve their condition. Sometimes it takes weeks, even months of patient, plodding effort before a dozen people are even willing to come to a meeting to discuss local problems. But we believe that the most effective and long-lasting change comes when people decide to do things for themselves, when people decide they want to change something and then act.

This kind of change does not just happen. We must work for it. And the essential ingredient is our readiness to question the status quo. The CYC is not ready to accept yesterday's answers for today's problems. Our focus is and must be on the future.

While we should all be proud and pleased with the progress Canada has made towards a democratic society, we should not let our achievements dull our sensitivity to the wrongs and weaknesses which still persist. We have the second highest standard of living in the world, yet the Economic Council of Canada reports that about one-third of Canada's population lives in poverty. Are any of us happy with that statistic? Our society still regards and treats Canada's native people with the type of paternalism more suited to nineteenth century colonialism than twentieth century democracy. Can we remain smug much longer about the racial troubles of other countries? The task force on housing is discovering that many thousands of Canadians lack adequate shelter, and that urban life for many means misery and hardship. Where are the defenders of that status quo?

What an increasing number of Canadians have in common today is a sense of frustration and helplessness, a feeling of growing alienation from the unreal and apparently unattainable world of the television commercial. This fraternity of despair does not discriminate. It contains the young, the old, the poor, the Indian, the homeowner, the slum-dweller, the middle-class drop-out. We are deeply concerned that this frustration, this inability to penetrate the processes of democratic life, will lead to a deepening chasm between the rich and the poor. And if people cannot achieve change in their lives, if they cannot experience progress, if they cannot perceive equality, if they cannot sense hope for the future of their children, they may turn to bitterness, hatred and violence. We must then all accept the consequences of our inaction.

• 0950

The CYC does not claim to have the answers to these complex issues. But our volunteers are trying to help people find a way out of their frustration. When our volunteers and staff in Northwestern Ontario help the Armstrong Indian Association to stand up for their rights, it may be embarrassing to some people, and it may not succeed right away, but it's a beginning. When CYC volunteers help public housing residents in Vancouver to articulate their grievances and press for changes in regulations on the public housing projects, some people may not be happy with this assertiveness, but at least changes do occur. When our volunteers in Montreal help low-income families to make better use of their budgets, they might not be solving poverty, but they're taking a big first step.

When the CYC assists a group of Indian ex-inmates form a post-release centre, which they can run themselves, it may not reform the Canadian penal system overnight, but it does give some human beings a new chance at self-dignity and respect. When a group of volunteers help to establish a free school, like the Everdale Place, they are not subverting the school system of Ontario, but they are helping society as a whole to examine some alternative learning methods. And when a militant committee of white and Métis citizens convinces a provincial government that new economic and social initiatives are needed in their area CYC volunteers and staff must take some of the credit.

In all these projects and dozens more, our volunteers and staff are devoting their energies, enthusiasms and passions to the kind of self-renewal our society needs and wants. They have not and will not always succeed but under the most difficult circumstances, often of the company's own making, they have given concrete meaning to a new kind of citizenship.

After two years' experience, the CYC has learned a great deal, as much from our mistakes as from our successes. The company now has a strong enough foundation to build a larger and more effective voluntary service program. In the last few months particularly we have made extensive administrative, personnel and program changes. We have reduced the number of staff by over one-third. We have also established realistic program priorities for the next eighteen months. With the economies made in the operations of the company, we intend over the next fiscal year to increase the number of volunteers to approximately 275, without any substantial addition of staff.

The Company of Young Canadians is making a modest contribution to the development of a better Canada. I hope Parliament will continue to have confidence in our efforts.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

The Chairman: That is the only statement you are going to make.

[*Interpretation*]

Mr. Laniel, you may speak in French because Mr. Goodings also speaks French.

Mr. Laniel: Mr. Chairman, there is one thing which I deplore. As the Company of Young Canadians is appearing before a Committee of the House of Commons, for the first time, I would have preferred to hold discussions, to have an exchange of views with the Directors of the Company of Young Canadians.

I agree that the responsibility of the Directors is to see that the funds are well spent, but, the Company of Young Canadians has perhaps failed in its public relations, it has not sold the Company in general to the public, I am afraid that questions relating directly to expenditures and definite programs will only encourage criticism of the Company. Personally, I have confidence in such instruments as the Company of Young Canadians which can be increasingly used in the future. I hope that the press will not interpret our questions as serious criticism of the Directors of the Company of Young Canadians.

Having said this, I have two or three questions to ask Mr. Goodings.

Even though I understand that your staff is limited and your action is thereby limited, I deplore the fact that it is concentrated in cities. For instance, in the province of Quebec, you work in Montreal. You work in nearly every provincial capital. Are you thinking of going outside of the great centres even if your budget has been reduced by 20 per cent?

[*English*]

Mr. Goodings: Mr. Chairman, it is correct that a large percentage of our volunteers do work in large cities and perhaps this does reflect that the vast majority of Canadians do live in large cities and that so many of the most urgent social problems are particularly evident in large cities. But there are, I think, a reasonable proportion of volunteers who work in rural areas and it is our intention in the next year to increase that percentage of volunteers who will be working in programs of rural community development.

At the moment in the Province of Quebec of the 75 volunteers who work there I think approximately 45 work in the city on the Island of Montreal in a variety of projects, while the other 30 would work in the smaller towns and villages in the vicinity, extending as far as Three Rivers.

[*Interpretation*]

Mr. Laniel: Do you concentrate your action to a group age in particular? Are the members of the Company of Young Canadians well

received by older people? As a result, do you have to concentrate on an age group? Do you also operate in the student milieu?

[*English*]

Mr. Goodings: In the Company's projects across Canada I think it has been received in a variety of ways. One instance I remember rather vividly is when a couple of volunteers were invited to leave a community not very long after being there, and that was not one of the best receptions that we have ever had. I think at the beginning of almost any project there is a certain amount of apprehension or at least pretty strong curiosity about why these young people are coming and how it is that they can live in someone's community without apparently working. There are a number of questions like this that the volunteers and the staff people with the Company have to answer. However, I would say that in the vast proportion of our projects, once this initial period of questioning—and suspicion in some cases—has been overcome, the reception has been excellent. I think that now particularly, after two years, one of the most encouraging aspects of our work is that it is receiving a good deal of support from the local people and the community groups where we are working.

[*Interpretation*]

Mr. Laniel: But, did you not think that with a pilot project in a small town of 40,000 or 50,000 persons, that you might engage the population and the taxpayers? Your presence would be much better noticed than in large cities.

You say that you have been favourably received in some areas. But in certain quarters of Montreal you go by unnoticed in the news amid statements made by Mr. Saulnier, Mr. Drapeau, by the Quebec Liquor Board. I am convinced that if you were working in a town like Valleyfield which is 40 miles from Montreal, it would greatly help your public relations.

[*English*]

Mr. Goodings: I think there is definitely something in what you say. If we are working in smaller areas it is possible that we will have a greater impact and we will become better known. We are trying to find a balance between the need to work in various geographical areas of Canada and the need to work in various particular programs. While I do not think we have perhaps yet found the best balance, the experience which we have accumulated in working in these various areas in small cities, in big cities, in very isolated areas, on Indian reserves, I think is teaching us a great deal about where we can be most effective.

[*Interpretation*]

Mr. Laniel: You have not replied to one of my questions. Do you work among students? Have you, or some of your members, been accused of being agitators in these groups?

You condemned the *status quo*. However, do you feel it is too soon to tackle the problems of youth to-day? Or do some of you feel this way?

• 1000

[*English*]

Mr. Goodings: We have believed, all along, that...

[*Interpretation*]

The Chairman: Your question is very vague, indeed it is most embarrasing. Would you like to answer, Mr. Goodings?

[*English*]

Mr. Goodings: One thing I want to say is that...

Mr. Laniel: There is an impression among the population that I would like to correct.

Mr. Goodings: We have felt that, of all groups of society, high school and university students ought to be able to take care of their problems as well as, on better than, other deprived or discriminated-against groups in the country. We have have felt that it would be a misuse of C.Y.C. resources to put effort into that particular area.

I have the feeling that the university students in this country are going to do whatever they are going to do without much encouragement from the C.Y.C. Therefore, we are not actively involved in that aspect except in one or two minor instances.

Mr. Laniel: I have one final question, Mr. Chairman. This is why I said that this should not have been an official meeting but a conversation.

I understood you to say that 50 per cent of your people are concentrating their effort on debt-counselling and administration of budget. What training do they get? I am not

always sure that the younger you are the better you can administer a budget.

Mr. Goodings: The volunteers in Montreal engaged on this particular program of debt-counselling and aid to families in their budgeting work under the aegis of Association Coopérative d'Economie Familiale (ACEF). This is a private body which was established largely on the initiative of the Confédération des Syndicats Nationaux (CSN) in Quebec some years ago. ACEF does have professional and highly competent persons who train the volunteers before they go out to work with people in the city.

Mr. Laniel: I see.

Mr. Goodings: And they receive regular in-service training during the two years.

Mr. Laniel: I see.

[*Interpretation*]

The Chairman: Mr. LeBlanc.

Mr. LeBlanc (Rimouski): I understood that you have youth groups from the CYC who were mainly active in urban areas such as Montreal and Toronto. Could you tell us the other important urban areas, where the CYC operates?

[*English*]

Mr. Goodings: The other main urban areas?

Mr. LeBlanc (Rimouski): Yes.

Mr. Goodings: Montreal, Toronto and Vancouver.

[*Interpretation*]

Mr. LeBlanc (Rimouski): Now, another question. Among the aborigines, you said you had about 15 p. 100 of your workers who are working with them.

Mr. Laniel: 50 p. 100.

Mr. LeBlanc (Rimouski): 50 p. 100, I thought it was 15 p. 100. Where in Canada do you work with these native Indians or Eskimos?

[*English*]

Mr. Goodings: I work with Canada's native people, Indians and Metis. This is principally in the Prairie Provinces. We have one project extending across Northwestern Ontario and centred in the Lakehead, but the others are in the Prairie Provinces—in Saskatchewan and Alberta; and also in the Northwest Territories.

[*Interpretation*]

• 1005

Mr. LeBlanc (Rimouski): You also mentioned 15 per cent who are working on projects. Could you give us a few examples of these miscellaneous projects?

[*English*]

Mr. Goodings: Yes; under this miscellaneous category we would include, for example, the Indian post release centre which began in Vancouver about a year-and-a-half ago on the initiative of a number of Indian inmates in the British Columbia penitentiary system. It was started by the Indian education club in one of the prisons and they asked the Company of Young Canadians to help them to establish a kind of half-way house.

Half-way houses do exist elsewhere and for some years they have proven themselves as a useful tool of rehabilitation.

Perhaps the exciting aspect of the particular half-way house that the Company assists is that it is run by the Indians themselves and not by an outside agency. Our staff and volunteers are there as resources, but it is run by the Indians themselves.

It has proven to be an extremely exciting and useful initiative in the field of penal work in British Columbia. There has been a great deal of contact between this post-release centre and officials in British Columbia and at the federal level.

That would be one example of what we classify as a miscellaneous project.

[*Interpretation*]

Mr. LeBlanc (Rimouski): One last question. You know that in some areas of Canada there are general improvements projects such as the use of natural resources in a given area and if I may use the term, the utilization of the human assets from an economic and social point of view. I am thinking particularly of the Inter-lake area in Manitoba, northern New Brunswick: Do you operate here within the framework of ARDA and FODER? In Quebec there is Gaspe and the lower St. Lawrence. Are you interested in these areas since the Government has provided in its own estimates specific and substantial expenditures, very specific expenditures for an experimental activity in these pilot-areas, are you particularly interested in these areas? Do you have volunteers working in these areas or do you plan to send some volunteers?

[*English*]

Mr. Goodings: The only area of the country in which our volunteers have some contact with the kind of area development program to which you refer is in Northern Alberta where our volunteers have assisted in the establishment of a committee of citizens around the Lesser Slave Lake area.

This Committee has had discussions with the Provincial Government of Alberta and with officials of ARDA and I believe that an area development project is shortly to be set up there.

However, it does interest us very much to consider the possibility of having volunteers working within the framework of some of these area development projects. As you have mentioned, we think it is particularly important that these area development projects pay attention to the human resources of an area.

In the last month-and-a-half we have had preliminary discussions with officials in ARDA to find out whether the Company of Young Canadians could be of assistance in some of the work they are starting, and it is an area that we intend to develop much more in the next 18 months.

Mr. LeBlanc (Rimouski): Merci.

The Chairman: Mr. Thomson.

Mr. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Mr. Chairman, I have a question or two, and I would like to use as an illustration, the Indian reserve, although it could be some other area.

• 1010

Does the Company of Young Canadians hire Indians to work on their own reserves? On a reserve in my riding there is quite a bit of good land not being farmed. Do you actually encourage them to farm, or to use the facilities that they have at hand? If you do, I was wondering about the possibility of the length of time of a project. For example, if you organized a group which decided to farm and then you went away before the project was too well enhanced and before they really got hold of it themselves, I can see where you might leave things up in the air and it would fall through.

Maybe we should deal with it in sections. First, do you hire Indians or, if you will, young people from a section of Montreal that suffers from economic deprivation—someone that comes in from outside only?

Mr. Goodings: We have done both. I think the majority of our volunteers would be considered outsiders in that they would be coming from another part of the country to work in an area. We have had a number of volunteers who have come directly from the areas where the projects exist, and we have had a number of alien volunteers and still do. I think, however, that we have only had one project in which we worked directly on one single reserve. This was a project in Cape Breton—the Eskasoni Indian Reserve. This was one of our first projects and one of our first volunteers. He left the reserve this summer after two years of service there. I think his work, as well as helping the Indian band council with its meetings, with its minutes, with its making representation to various bodies, did include the kind of activity that you mentioned.

The other projects that we have involving Indians encompass a larger geographical area than one particular reserve and I think it would be fair to say that their main focus is on trying to help communication among Indians from various reserves or from various communities—to help Indian groups to become better organized, to express their concerns and to express their grievances.

Mr. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): But in effect though, you have not really done too much in the sense of trying to organize them in an economic activity, which is really my question.

Mr. Goodings: No, we have not.

Mr. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): I am concerned about the length of a project or whatever it might be. As I see it, there is an possibility at least of someone going in, getting them all fired up, encouraged and enthused, and then leaving them before they are well able to take care of the problem. How long do you consider a project to be, or have you given thought to this?

Mr. Goodings: When we decided very early on that volunteers in the Company should work for two years we made that decision feeling that it would really take that long for a volunteer to become sufficiently known and respected in a community to be effective, and to help people initiate something and to carry it out, and we are satisfied that that was a correct decision. For example the VISTA program (Volunteers in Service to America) in the United States is their equivalent to the Company, and their volunteers only work for

one year. They have found, for example, that perhaps 40 per cent of volunteers re-enlist for a second year, which would seem to indicate that it really does require two years work in a community. This view has been borne out by the volunteers in the Company who have finished their two years of service. Many volunteers have requested and have been granted extensions of their contracts for up to a maximum of six months. They have done this because they have realized that the things that they are involved in need that extra time to perhaps come to fruition or to allow local people in the community to take over that particular activity.

• 1015

However, I do not want to suggest that we have this problem licked, because certainly in a great many situations and a great many projects two years merely scratches the surface of even a very tiny area. And there is the problem of what happens when volunteers leave. In some cases we are able to find new volunteers to continue the project. They come in and are oriented by the old volunteers. We have had some successful and some not so very successful experiments in that connection. So it is a continuing problem.

In all our projects we do try for a maximum amount of community participation so that people can say: We did this ourselves and we are going to continue doing it ourselves; it has been very nice having the CYC volunteer help us in this but we are strong enough now to carry on. That of course is the ideal, but we do not meet that ideal every time.

Mr. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): If I could make a comment on this, Mr. Chairman—and I have already referred to it—I feel in some Indian reserves at least that there are physical resources as well as human resources not being used and I think that occasionally if these could be put together by someone with initiative, like yourself or your group, this would be helpful. It is just a matter of interesting the people enough that they use the resources they already have. I have seen in my own area resources going begging and the people involved doing nothing, and I certainly think it is tragic that they cannot hitch the two together.

The Chairman: Mr. Thomson, will you mention your constituency for the record.

Mr. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Battleford-Kindersley. There are five reserves in my riding. There is some very good farm land on some of them and this land is not being used to any extent.

The Chairman: You have made the situation better known now, Mr. Thomson.

Mr. Thomson (Battleford Kindersley): Thank you.

The Chairman: Mr. Penner, please.

Mr. Penner: I have two questions Mr. Chairman. Mr. Goodings, I notice under "Objects and Powers", in the act which brought the Company of Young Canadians into existence the following:

> The objects of the Company are to support, encourage and develop programs for social, economic and community development in Canada or abroad . . .

Is the Company in any way involved in projects outside Canada and, if not, has it ever considered becoming involved?

Mr. Goodings: We are not involved at the moment in any projects outside Canada. During the last fiscal year, 1967-68, using people with experience and skills in voluntary service abroad we did conduct some studies to examine the possibilities of starting an overseas program for the Company, and they made certain recommendations. When the government cut our budget last fall the Provisional Council of the Company decided as a matter of policy that the Company should not initiate an international program at that time because of the cut in budget. We have no present plans for getting involved in the international field.

Mr. Marchand (Kamloops-Cariboo): Mr. Chairman, I have a supplementary question.

Do you think it is a good idea to get involved in overseas work when we have CUSO so deeply involved? I think CUSO is doing an excellent job over there. Do you look at your work as being complementary, or what would be the approach?

Mr. Goodings: First of all, there is a provision for The Company of Young Canadians to work abroad contained in our act. As for deciding how and when the Company should start overseas programs, that is a policy decision which is the responsibility of our Provisional Council, our governing body, to make and I do not think it would be very proper

for me to comment on that. As I say, there are no present plans for starting overseas projects. I do know that when the Company was giving some consideration to this the first assumption that we made was that we would not and should not compete or duplicate the work of CUSO which has a fine international reputation and has done, in my personal view, an outstanding job.

•1020

Mr. Marchand (Kamloops-Cariboo): Yes, this is my impression too.

The Chairman: Mr. Marchand, if you do not mind, we will come back to you. We will carry on with Mr. Penner.

Mr. Marchand (Kamloops-Cariboo): All right.

The Chairman: A supplementary?

Mr. Perrault: Mr. Chairman, I have a supplementary on this international program. I have before me a document entitled "Report on the Development of an International Program for The Company of Young Canadians", which was prepared by Mr. Gerry Hunnius, consultant, dated September 10, 1967. I notice with interest that very heavy fees have been paid to the consultants to The Company of Young Canadians. Mr. Chairman, the reason I would like to speak on the international aspects of the program is that I understand it is still the long-term objective of CYC to get into the international field. Some literature was sent to me this week by the Company to apprise me of their objectives, and it mentioned their program in the far North and soon in other countries.

I am confused after having read this brief. It seems to me that the objectives of The Company of Young Canadians are far more political than they are economic, or it is action in other directions. May I just quote a couple of the paragraphs, Mr. Chairman:

> "The gap between the rich and the poor (largely the peasants) is great and in some cases widening.

This is referring to Latin America and Asia. Then it goes on:

> The form of government is usually oppressive and undemocratic even by 'western' standards. The oppressed elements are isolated, not only within their own country but also internationally. This means that there is little communication between the underdogs of one country and that of another and virtually no communication between the underdogs of the developing countries and the progressive elements within industrialized nations." What communication exists is often geared to the national policy of a given industrial country or is tied to a predetermined pattern of behavious which excludes all those who disagree with its assumptions and methods.

That sounds to me as though it is a political program. After reading this quotation and a couple of others I would like to say that I think The Company of Young Canadians is doing good work in many areas of Canada, but I think the elected members have a right to know exactly what the objectives of this program are overseas. Here is another example. This appears on page 34 of the brief of the consultants to The Company of Young Canadians:

> It can be argued (and I would so argue) that the western parliamentary system in its various variations, does not today meet the demands of the technological age and the simultaneous desire of the individual to participate meaningfully in the social, political and economic decisions which affect him. In fact, the power of the individual and the small group is diminishing rapidly...

I would like to know what The Company of Young Canadians believes to be the alternative to the parliamentary system. I think this is the question which people in Parliament should ask themselves.

Page 37 of the consultants' brief relates to the international program, and it reads:

> "If we can agree on the need for a radical change in the system itself, we ought to look at the methods by which such change can occur in an industrial society. If the argument of Katz, Kohr and others is correct, the actions and protest of groups which want to change the system are in danger of being absorbed and made ineffectual by the conflict-reducing mechanism of an efficient bureaucratic society. Other tools will need to be employed to increase the effectiveness of those who seek to bring about radical change."

Frankly, Mr. Chairman, I would like to know from The Company of Young Canadians what is the alternative to the parliamen-

tary system? What is the radical change that is being sought by The Company of Young Canadians? I would like to know whether this report by Mr. Gerry Hunnius resulted in the payment of a fee to him and how much he received. I would like to know what kind of program the CYC feels best equipped to engage in overseas. Is it political, as interpreted by the CYC? Is it the kind of program which would result in what Mr. Hunnius describes as a radical change in society, or are the objectives purely of the kind that are pursued by some other government agencies? Is The Company of Young Canadians prepared to provide this Committee with any other reports which may have been prepared with respect to overseas activity, which seems to me very political in orientation.

• 1025

The Chairman: Mr. Perrault, what is your first question? You are asking about 10 questions there. I think he should know exactly . . .

Mr. Goodings: I think I have the questions.

The Chairman: You have them all?

Mr. Perrault: I elucidated them in order. The gentleman says that he has the questions.

The Chairman: Go ahead, Mr. Goodings.

Mr. Goodings: I think the first and most important thing to note about Mr. Perrault's comments is that he is reading a position paper of one of our consultants. He is not reading an official policy statement of The Company of Young Canadians.

Mr. Perrault: Did the consultant receive a fee for this effort?

Mr. Goodings: Yes, Mr. Hunnius was paid.

Mr. Perrault: How much did he receive?

Mr. Goodings: He received fees of $11,000 for his work.

Mr. Perrault: $11,000 for preparing this document.

Mr. Goodings: As I say, this document which he prepared was a position paper with suggestions and alternatives for developing an international program. It does not represent the views of The Company of Young Canadians.

Mr. Perrault: Do you reject the views that are contained in the consultants' report? You said you commission people with experience and skills, and I quote:

> . . . with experience and skills in voluntary service abroad to examine the possibilities of starting an overseas program . . .

What qualifications did Mr. Hunnius have to prepare that report?

Mr. Goodings: Mr. Hunnius is a man 41 years of age. He has worked for many years in the field of international aid and development. He has extensive academic qualifications and we believed that he was competent to suggest some ideas for our consideration for an international program. We were not committed—and are never committed—to accept all the ideas and suggestions made by consultants.

Mr. Perrault: Did you reject this report of Mr. Hunnius?

Mr. Goodings: The report was accepted by the Council for consideration. It was not approved.

Mr. Perrault: Would you be prepared to make available to the members of the Committee for its perusal other consultants' reports with respect to your international program?

Mr. Goodings: I am not sure about the procedure in this kind of thing. However, I have no objection to making available reports of this nature, except that they are internal documents of the Company which are not official policy. I think some of the views stated in that report are interesting. However, to talk about whether the Company has alternatives to the parliamentary system I do not think is relevant here. We have never . . .

Mr. Perrault: I think it is relevant. It may conceivably relate to any future international program engaged in and financed by Canadian taxpayers.That is a fair question.

Mr. Goodings: I think, Mr. Perrault, I have already made the point that at the moment the Company has no plans for getting involved in the international field, and the document you quoted is an internal position paper which does not represent the policy of the Company.

The Chairman: Mr. Goodings, have any of those recommendations which were made been implemented yet, or are they still being studied by the Company?

Mr. Goodings: None of them have been implemented and none of them are under active

consideration because as a matter of policy the Council of the Company decided not to proceed.

Mr. Perrault: What does Mr. Hunnius do as a full-time job? What position does he hold?

Mr. Goodings: He is presently on a year of research at the Institute for Policy Studies in Washington.

Mr. Perrault: What is his profession?

Mr. Goodings: I believe his academic training is in political science.

Mr. Perrault: Political science. He is now a student in Washington?

Mr. Goodings: He is doing post-doctoral work.

Mr. Perrault: Is he a professor or is he an instructor?

Mr. Goodings: He has been a professor. At the moment he is doing full-time study.

Mr. Perrault: What has his specific experience been in overseas work? Do you have any background on that? Has he served any time in any post overseas with any agency of the United Nations?

Mr. Goodings: Yes, I believe he has worked as a consultant and as a full-time employee of agencies of the United Nations. I would be prepared to provide his full curriculum vitae to this Committee or to any members who are interested.

Mr. Perrault: The orientation of this consultants' brief, for which he was paid $11,000, is very, very heavily political. Is this apart from the norm of the other consultations which you sought and received with respect to the international program? In other words, I am interested in knowing, if we do ultimately achieve the goal of the Company of Young Canadians, that is, to extend an international program, what the goals of that program are going to be, whether or not we want to change the existing order or whether we are going to improve the economic condition of people overseas?

• 1030

Mr. Goodings: Mr. Chairman, I do not think there is much else I can say on this. I have said, and I repeat, that the Company has no plans for going overseas. It would be quite hypothetical for me to make any comments about what the objectives or aims of that program might be when and if it is developed. I think that is a question for the future.

Mr. Perrault: Relative to the international program, in total how many reports were prepared?

Mr. Goodings: I believe there were about five reports.

Mr. Perrault: What were the total consultants' fees involved?

Mr. Goodings: I do not have the exact figure.

Mr. Perrault: Can you obtain this information?

Mr. Goodings: Yes.

The Chairman: In answer to a question by Mr. Diefenbaker there was deposited at the House on November 13 the report of the Company of Young Canadians for 1967-68. It contains an item showing that $489,019 was expended for consulting and professional fees during the year.

Mr. Perrault: Yes, Mr. Chairman; I want to know the portion of the fees relating to the international program.

Mr. Goodings: We can certainly get that information for you.

Mr. Perrault: That completes my questioning for the moment, Mr. Chairman.

The Chairman: Fees for consultants were $278,000. I do not know how many odd dollars and cents; I do not have the details. And expenses for consultants were $59,053.22.

Mr. Perrault: Yes; I am seeking the percentage of those—

The Chairman: Yes.

Mr. Stewart (Marquette): Mr. Chairman, for the convenience of Members could that report be tabled?

The Chairman: It was tabled in the House.

Mr. Stewart (Marquette): Yes.

The Chairman: You can get it at any time at the House. It was in reply to question No. 275 on September 25 and was tabled on November 13. You can get that from the parliamentary paper.

We will now come back to your second question, Mr. Penner.

Mr. Penner: Mr. Goodings, in your opening remarks you talked of new remedies for old problems. Of course, as legislators, this interests us very much.

Recently I was in the company of three of your members, one of whom was a volunteer, at one of these talk-back type seminars at Carleton University. We were particularly concerned about some of the problems the country is facing with respect to its native people. I listened carefully for new remedies and solutions to old problems.

Some of the ideas I heard expressed were very old and very much of the 19th century. One that bothered me a little came from one of the members who concluded that the only way to bring social justice to these native peoples, particularly the Indians and Métis, was by the use of violence.

As I listened, I assumed that this kind of statement arose from the sense of desperation people feel when they are unable to get their way on a particular request.

However, I would be interested to know just how widespread is this attitude among volunteers, among the young people working in the field, and to what extent they have been faced with desperate conditions for which they feel there is no answer and their organization of people may involve the encouragement of direct action—violent action—to bring about results and to draw attention to problems?

• 1035

Mr. Goodings: Mr. Chairman, I would not want to speak for the individual to whom Mr. Penner refers, but I can say that the Company of Young Canadians does not and will not encourage the use of violence to accomplish any social end.

What I have said today in my opening statement and what others in the Company of Young Canadians—and, I might add, what some Indian leaders and some leading politicians of this country have said—is that there is, among minority groups, the potential for violence in this country; that is, groups who are becoming more and more frustrated. We are, I think, observing a possibility; we are not predicting something nor are we encouraging something.

The Chairman: Mr. Marchand?

Mr. Gundlock: Mr. Chairman, may I ask a supplementary?

The Chairman: Yes, Mr. Gundlock.

Mr. Gundlock: To follow up that statement, I notice on page 7:

> ...a group such as the CYC to go across our nation to inform people on how best to fight the people we elect to protect our interests.

The Chairman: Is that the annual report?

Mr. Gundlock: It is the annual report.

The Chairman: For March 31, 1968?

Mr. Gundlock: Yes; on page 7.

Mr. Goodings: Mr. Chairman, that, again, is someone's interpretation of the role of the Company of Young Canadians. You will note that that letter is written by a gentleman who lives in Calgary. He is neither a volunteer nor a member of the staff of the Company of Young Canadians.

We have observed, throughout the history of the Company that many people have their own interpretation about what we do and what our purpose is. That is inevitable in an organization such as ours.

I can, however, state most emphatically that we do not go around preaching violence, nor do we encourage people to fight their elected representatives; and that is definite.

Mr. Gundlock: Then why do you incorporate that in an annual report? To me, that is a rather disturbing statement to have incorporated in your annual report and presented to this Committee.

Mr. Goodings: What we attempted to do here was to indicate that in the communities in which we work there are people who support the work of the Company of Young Canadians. That does not mean that they will accurately understand, or precisely identify, every element or objective of the CYC.

We included this letter because we had volunteers in Calgary helping the resident association, which was one of the most successful projects the Company has operated, and we believed that their expression of support for our work should be noted.

Mr. Gundlock: Mr. Chairman, that seems to me to be a little ambiguous. This is under a heading, "a community speaks", and Mr. Goodings now says it is just one man's opinion.

The Chairman: Well, I do not know. They say at the beginning that:

> The true judges of the Company must be the communities where they work. Here is one comment from one community. Letters like this come often enough to give volunteers renewed spirit.

I suppose it is good that you receive many of those letters, but why was this particular letter picked out and put into your report?

Mr. Gundlock: And under a heading of "a community." Now you are inferring that it is just an individual.

Could you explain what brought about this letter, or what he is talking about in that community?

Mr. Goodings: We have had volunteers working in Calgary for over two years now. One of the first areas in which our volunteers began to work was the Victoria Park area of Calgary. For a number of years this area has been threatened by expropriation by the Calgary Exhibition and Stampede Board. The efforts of our volunteers helped, in part, to develop a strong Residents Committee of the Victoria Area to stand up and defend the rights of the people in that part of Calgary when threatened with expropriation.

Mr. Gundlock: Defying their elected members?

Mr. Goodings: I do not think it is a matter of defying their elected representatives at all. In this country there are many examples of expropriation that does not take into consideration the rights of the people. I believe the Minister of Justice has already spoken in the House of Commons about changes to the Expropriation Act which would take into consideration some of the injustices which still exist in the area of expropriation.

This activity in Galgary was a concrete example of how expropriation can take place without any form of consultation with the residents and can adversely affect their interests and livelihood.

The Victoria Park residents committee played a very constructive role in making sure that when expropriation plans were developed for that area the people were involved.

Frankly, I think that this kind of activity is one of the best ways in which the Company of Young Canadians can serve the interests of the Canadian people.

Mr. Gundlock: May I go on, Mr. Chairman?

The Chairman: Yes; if it is your last question.

Mr. Gundlock: Yes. I feel the Company is a very worthy Company. Statements like this bother me some and the last question, the relationship with two provinces, as a matter of fact, I think Alberta and Saskatchewan, and these kinds of statements and this kind of practice alienating two provinces, as I understand it. What do you have in mind to overcome this sort of thing?

Mr. Goodings: I think the first thing I could say is that we have never received a request, either informal or formal from the provincial governments of Alberta, Saskatchewan or Manitoba, that we should leave. It is part of the common legend of the Company of Young Canadians that the prairie premiers have asked the CYC to leave. I want to clear this up perhaps once and for all. There has never been any suggestion or indication from those provincial governments that the CYC leave their provinces. We have had, I think, very useful discussions and a very close relationship with the Department of Youth in the Province of Alberta and with the Alberta Service Corps. I think a great deal of credit must go to the government of Alberta for starting up the first provincial voluntary service program for young people and our volunteers in Alberta have had a lot of contact with and co-operation from that organization.

Again, there has been contact with the provincial premiers of both Saskatchewan and Alberta, but there has never been any indication from them that we should leave. I think perhaps the need to clear things up rests more with the press and the public than with those particular premiers, because I think they understand the nature of the Company of Young Canadians' operations in their provinces.

I thank you very much, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. Marchand (Kamloops-Caribou): I have a list of questions and I assure hon. members that I do not have my tomahawk along today. I would just like perhaps to reiterate my own position about the Company and reiterate what some of the hon. members have said before. I think you fellows have a great mandate to do good. I think the establishment of this particular Company is an excellent idea. There is a lot of room in the country for the

type of work the Company is designed to do, but I would also like to associate myself with some of Mr. Goodings' comments that perhaps we will have to give the Company a chance to find its legs.

It is a new organization; it is growing; it is finding its place in the country and perhaps the waters were a little rough. I hope that in the future you will really find your legs to do good in the country. There is a lot of room for the catalytic action that you speak of, community development approach and trying to get communities to recognize their work and to get people to recognize their own self-worth. I know this is the case particularly in the Indian communities and I hope that the Company will do a much better job in the future.

• 1045

I know of some particularly good projects, some particularly good examples, and I know that you have used them pretty well throughout the book. I also note, too, that some of the people in the various parts of the administration were former Indian Affairs people with certain reputations, public reputations as well as reputations that I have known of.

I have a series of questions here. Can you give us a little more background about the North American Indian Travelling College project? What are its aims, what success have you had with it so far, volunteers? What do you look for in a volunteer to work on Indian reserves? Have you had any consultants prepare reports to advise you on how you should carry out your work on Indian reserves. In my experience it is pretty easy to raise hell, but it is a little more difficult to do something constructive.

Mr. Goodings: First of all, Mr. Chairman, I appreciate Mr. Marchand's comments in support of the Company of Young Canadians, particularly with his background in the area of Indian affairs. The North American Indian Travelling College is, I think, an extremely interesting new idea which has emerged from the Indian people in the last two years. Its essential element is to try to develop a mobile school, if you like. It was originally thought that it might be composed of rolling stock—trains, cars—which might go to reserves in various parts of the country and particularly make use of the culture and history of Indian people both to develop pride in those things among Indians on reserves and also to do a much-needed job of education among the white communities.

We have had a staff member working on this project for over a year. His name in Mr. Ernest Benedict, an Indian man from the Cornwall area. The objective now is to terminate the Company's involvement in this project at the end of this fiscal year. The main reason is because we think it extremely important that this kind of idea, this kind of project be quite clearly an Indian project, that it will lose a great deal of its possibility if, in fact, it becomes a CYC project with some hired Indians doing the work.

That is why Mr. Benedict is now travelling to a number of reserves throughout Ontario, raising money, talking about the idea. There is a Board of Directors for the Traveling College, all Indians, and our hope is that the Board of Directors will take the college over and will get it going within the next calendar year.

We think it is a very worthy and new kind of project which might possibly break some new ground in the field of education and relationship between Indians and whites in the country, but essentially we emphasize that it must be considered by Canada's white population and by Canada's Indians as an Indian project. That is why we are terminating our involvement in it at the end of the fiscal year.

Mr. Marchand (Kamloops-Cariboo): I have a couple of other questions. Did you hire any consultants to advise you on your Indian program? Also, what are some of the criteria that you use for Indian volunteers? My own impression is that I would like to see a lot more volunteers, perhaps on the reserves. I have one particular reservation in mind of 10 reservations in my riding. I would like to see somebody in there who has something to offer.

The Indians talk about the great bearded wonders who come in and try to tell them how to live their lives. I certainly would not want to see, and I know the Indians that I have talked to in my riding do not want to see, these great bearded wonders who have the answers to all the problems of the world. We would like somebody responsible who has in himself something to offer, not one who just comes in and raises hell and gets the people stirred up and then, when the people are ready to do something, has nothing to offer to them to fulfil the needs that they have discovered.

• 1050

Mr. Goodings: To answer your first question; yes, we have used a number of consultants to give us advice about how best to develop programs with Indian people. I could go over the list in detail if you wish, but we have used a number of people, including some organizations such as Canadian Indian Youth Council and a number of others.

Mr. Marchand (Kamloops-Cariboo): Will you list them? I am interested in this, Mr. Chairman; I really am.

Mr. Goodings: I am certainly prepared to do that, but I need to pull it out from the list which we have. I could not do it right now in order, but I could provide that information.

The Chairman: Perhaps he could send it to the clerk so that we can reproduce it for the entire Committee.

Mr. Marchand (Kamloops-Caribou): Perhaps it would be of interest to our Committee members; several of us have Indians in our ridings.

The Chairman: I agree.

Mr. Gundlock: Mr. Chairman, would it not be well to include these consultants' reports in the Minutes of this meeting, because various of us are interested in the various reports?

The Chairman: What amount of work would that involve?

Mr. Laniel: Mr. Chairman, we could not include all the reports; I mean, our Minutes will be that big. We could get the references or the information at the reports, but I wonder...

Mr. Goodings: I have assumed that members wanted to have the names of the consultants involved.

The Chairman: Yes, the names of the consultants.

An hon. Member: And their reports.

The Chairman: That might involve too much work and too much expense. The documents they have there I suppose can be consulted any time, but to copy them for the entire Committee—I do not know.

Mr. Gundlock: How bulky are they? How much of a volume is it?

Mr. Goodings: It would stand higher than this table and, as I said, we do not have any...

The Chairman: Mr. Marchand?

Mr. Marchand (Kamloops-Cariboo): For my part I would be just as happy to get a list of them—and perhaps a policy statement on the Company's involvement in Indian communities might be worth while if they have a policy document. I would be just as happy to have a look at this policy document.

I am most interested in how they select people and what kind of program they go through. I have some thoughts that I would not like to pursue. As Mr. Laniel said, perhaps we should have a chat some time and just really sit down and talk about it on a more personal level. I do not think this is the place to pull in names of certain people and talk about individuals, but perhaps someday we could have an in camera chat.

The Chairman: Gentlemen, I have six speakers who have asked to be heard and time is running fast, so I wonder whether we could adjourn now and stand Vote 48? The witnesses of the Company of Young Canadians will not be back before us for 15 days because, as I mentioned at the beginning, we have a recommendation from your subcommittee that we revert to the Public Service Commission in order to complete their estimates now that Mr. Carson is available. I suppose that next Thursday, November 21, we could come back to the Public Service Commission and carry on with that. As soon as we complete that part of our reference we may come back to the Company of Young Canadians.

In the meantime they will have a chance to go through their notes to see what information they can provide that we do not have now. Would that be suitable?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

The Chairman: Vote 48 stands. Adjourned until Thursday, November 21. Thank you.

HOUSE OF COMMONS

First Session—Twenty-eighth Parliament

1968

STANDING COMMITTEE

ON

MISCELLANEOUS ESTIMATES

Chairman: Mr. FERNAND E. LEBLANC

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS AND EVIDENCE

No. 4

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 21, 1968

Respecting

The items listed in the Revised Main Estimates for 1968-69, relating to the Public Service Commission.

WITNESSES:

Representing the Public Service Commission: Messrs. J. J. Carson, Chairman; G. A. Blackburn, Director General of the Language Bureau; R. F. Smith, Director of Administration; and A. R. K. Anderson, Director General of Staffing.

ROGER DUHAMEL, F.R.S.C.
QUEEN'S PRINTER AND CONTROLLER OF STATIONERY
OTTAWA, 1968

29285—1

STANDING COMMITTEE

ON

MISCELLANEOUS ESTIMATES

Chairman: Mr. Fernand E. Leblanc

Vice-Chairman: Mr. Aurélien Noël

and Messrs.

Alkenbrack,	Marchand (*Kamloops-Cariboo*),	Penner,
Éthier,	[1]Mather,	Perrault,
Gillespie,	McCutcheon,	Robinson,
Gundlock,	Paproski,	Rochon,
Laniel,	Peddle,	Rodrigue,
LeBlanc (*Rimouski*),		[2]Schumacher,
		Thomson (*Battleford-Kindersley*)—20.

(Quorum 11)

Gabrielle Savard,
Clerk of the Committee.

[1]Mr. Mather replaced Mr. Burton on November 20.
[2]Mr. Schumacher replaced Mr. Stewart (*Marquette*) on November 27.

ORDERS OF REFERENCE

WEDNESDAY, November 20, 1968.

Ordered,—That the name of Mr. Mather be substituted for that of Mr. Burton on the Standing Committee on Miscellaneous Estimates.

WEDNESDAY, November 27, 1968.

Ordered,—That the name of Mr. Schumacher be substituted for that of Mr. Stewart (*Marquette*) on the Standing Committee on Miscellaneous Estimates.

ATTEST:

ALISTAIR FRASER,
The Clerk of the House of Commons.

29285—1½

(*Text*)

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

THURSDAY, November 21, 1968.
(4)

The Standing Committee on Miscellaneous Estimates met this day at 11.15 o'clock a.m. The Chairman, Mr. Fernand E. Leblanc, presided.

Members present: Messrs. Laniel, Leblanc (*Laurier*), LeBlanc (*Rimouski*), Marchand (*Kamloops-Cariboo*), McCutcheon, Peddle, Penner, Rodrigue, Stewart (*Marquette*), Thomson (*Battleford-Kindersley*)—(10).

Other Member present: Mr. Schumacher.

In attendance: Representing the Public Service Commission: Messrs J. J. Carson, Chairman; G. A. Blackburn, Director General of the Language Bureau; R. F. Smith, Director of Administration; and A. R. K Anderson, Director General of Staffing.

The Committee resumed consideration of the items listed in the Revised Main Estimates for 1968-69, relating to the Public Service Commission.

On Vote 80,—Salaries and contingencies, etc. $13,391,200

Messrs. Carson, Blackburn, Smith and Anderson supplied information to the Members.

Agreed,—That a breakdown of expenses as listed in Costs of Removal, Tuition and Transportation of Candidates and their families for the Bicultural Development Program for a hypothetical family be supplied to the Members.

Also agreed,—That subject to securing authority to print today's Minutes of Proceedings and Evidence, the lists tabled by the Public Service Commission relating to the Bicultural Development Program be appended to the proceedings.

Vote 80 was allowed to stand.

At 12.40 p.m. the Committee adjourned to 9.30 a.m., Friday, November 29, 1968.

(*Text*)

FRIDAY, November 29, 1968.

The Standing Committee on Miscellaneous Estimates having been duly called to meet at 9.30 a.m., the following members were present: Messrs. Laniel, Leblanc (*Laurier*), LeBlanc (*Rimouski*), Noël, Paproski, Robinson, Rochon, Schumacher, Thomson (*Battleford-Kindersley*)—(9).

In attendance: Representing the Public Service Commission: Messrs. Yves Labonté, Commissioner; G. A. Blackburn, Director General of the Language Bureau; R. F. Smith, Director of Administration; and D. R. Taylor, Assistant Director General of the Staffing Branch.

The Director of Administration tabled, for distribution to the Committee Members, two documents requested at a previous meeting, concerning the costs of the Commission's bicultural development program.

There being no quorum, the members dispersed.

Gabrielle Savard,
Clerk of the Committee.

EVIDENCE

(Recorded by electronic apparatus)

November 21, 1968.

• 1115

The Chairman: Gentlemen, I think we should proceed with the witnesses as they are here to reply to our questions.

In response to a request from one of the members of the Committee two weeks ago you all received some documents from the Public Service Commission. You received the annual report and the names of those people who participated in the language program. Is that right, Mr. Carson?

Mr. J. J. Carson (Chairman Public Service Commission): The bicultural program, Mr. Chairman.

The Chairman: The bicultural program.

Mr. Carson: These are just the 20 families that go to Quebec City.

The Chairman: Yes.

Mr. Carson: And the 10 to Toronto.

The Chairman: I wish to introduce the witnesses for today. They are Mr. Carson, Mr. Blackburn, Mr. Anderson and Mr. Smith.

Are there any questions relating to the documents that you received? Mr. McCutcheon?

Mr. McCutcheon: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. This is headed "Costs of Removal, Tuition and Transportation of Candidates and their families". What is covered in that, Mr. Carson?

Mr. Carson: When the Prime Minister originally announced this program of sending 20 anglophone families to Quebec City and 10 francophone families to Toronto, he indicated that this was to be done without significant cost to the individual families. So, we have tried to reimburse these individuals for all of their out-of-pocket expenses in moving their entire families either to Quebec City or Toronto. I think it would be fair to say that we tried to ensure that a family would not be put at a financial disadvantage by undertaking a program of this kind, because with all these families hidden costs of one kind or another are involved. In some cases they have to make arrangements for a particular child that cannot go with them, and one thing and another, which is purely their own concern. However, we have tried to look after all the cost of picking the family up, moving them to Quebec City or Toronto and relocating them there for that year.

Mr. McCutcheon: This leads me to my second question and I would like you to elaborate on this. It costs $8,355.93 for Mr. J. F. Godsell and his wife and four children to go from Ottawa to Quebec City, and yet it only costs Dr. J.P. Boutet and his wife and four children $4,317.27 to go from Quebec City to Toronto. Will you explain the $4,000 difference.

Mr. Carson: This is pretty easy. It depends on the age and mix of the sexes of the children, the size of house that you require and the kind of furniture and furnishings that are required. If you have a teenage family, as Mr. Godsell has, this becomes a much more expensive outlay than it does for Dr. Boutet in going to Toronto. As I recall it, he has very young children and there is the cost of moving them, their equipment and their clothing. Then you must add to that the tuition costs which we have undertaken to pay, and these vary. If the child is a pre-school child there are no tuition costs involved. If the child is in high school and requires extra tutoring after hours, this is an additional cost. So, it is the mix of the ages of the children that is almost exclusively the deciding factor here.

• 1120

Perhaps Mr. Blackburn, the Director General of our Language Bureau, would like to elaborate on this because he is a little closer to the makeup and mix of the families than I am.

Mr. G.A. Blackburn (Director General, Language Bureau, Public Service Commission): Mr. Chairman, I think Mr. Carson has perhaps covered all of the factors save one, and that is that it is terribly important from the point of view of the participants and their children that the children do not miss a year

of their education. That is to say, following their high school program they may wish to enter university, and anxious as they may be to acquire a knowledge of a second language they are not willing to lose a year in the process.

In some instances this involves sending these high school children to private rather than public schools, and again this could account for a significant difference in tuition fees between a family of young children and one of teenagers.

Mr. McCutcheon: Thank you very much. That explains a lot of it. At first glance it would appear that if you were a civil servant in Ottawa you had an easier paymaster, shall we say.

Mr. Carson: No, it is the same paymaster, Mr. Chairman. The same rules apply in both cases.

I think perhaps it is only fair to explain that in searching for candidates for the Toronto program—that is, sending francophones who would benefit from exposure for a year to an English-speaking community—it has had, I suppose, the result that we should have expected. That is, that the senior francophones in the federal public service have been much more bilingual and bicultural than the Anglo-Saxons at the same level, with the result that we have come down a little bit further in the administrative hierarchy in sending francophone officers and their families to Toronto. The age level has been lower and the status in the organization has been lower. This has not been by design at all; it is merely that the senior francophones in the public service would not have gotten anything out of the year. They were already fully bicultural and bilingual. It is the younger officers of French background coming along who are benefitting from this program.

Mr. McCutcheon: Just one further question and then I am through. The total is listed as $163,818.46. I believe, if my addition is correct, that is in error.

The Chairman: We will get the adding machine.

Mr. McCutcheon: It looks as if that total is $80,000 short. I would suggest that the answer is $243,818.46.

Mr. Carson: Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. I am sorry that our adding machines are in error. We will have this corrected.

The Chairman: You mean you are going to send an amended copy?

Mr. Carson: I think we had better do that.

The Chairman: Yes, that would be appreciated, Mr. Peddle.

Mr. Carson: Or supply an explanation.

Mr. Peddle: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. At the last meeting at which Mr. Carson appeared I was trying to arrive at the total price tag for this program. I presume in an effort to arrive at that we have to add the salaries of each of the participants—the public servants—which in my estimate would increase the cost of this program another $500,000.

Mr. Carson: Yes. It is difficult, of course, to be precise about this because an individual who is on this program has continuing work that is covered in one way or another, but in most cases there has not been a net addition to the federal payroll in order to make this individual available to go on the program. Very often his work has perhaps been split up amongst a number of people or someone has been put in on an active basis, but it would not be accurate to assume that in every case somewhere down at the bottom of the ladder 30 additional bodies have come on to the federal payroll in order to make this program possible.

Mr. Peddle: No, but what I am getting at is were those people carrying on their usual work?

Mr. Carson: No.

Mr. Peddle: They were not, and therefore they are out of production?

Mr. Carson: That is right.

Mr. Peddle: That raises a big question as to their dispensability in the first place. I will not go into that, but I would say the fact remains that in order to arrive at a reasonable price tag for this that we would necessarily have to add their salaries. That is the way I see it.

• 1125

Mr. Carson: Of course, if the public service were a factory production line where if you move one person off you have to automatically replace him or the production line stops, you would be absoluely correct. I do not think that it is entirely accurate to assume that 30 additional people would have to be hired to make this group of 30 people available. Perhaps their work suffered, perhaps the

things they were involved with were put aside; a variety of things can have happened. Certainly, one has to take the salary cost into account, but we have always been reluctant to put in an exact cumulative total of the salaries of these people and say, "That is the correct cost", because I do not think it is.

Mr. Peddle: It would make it a frightening figure, for one thing. It has gone into three quarters of a million dollars, possibly, for 30 participants.

Mr. Carson: You are quite right; it is an expensive program. However, the conviction of the government and of the inter-departmental committee of advisors on bilingualism when this program was launched was that this was an important experiment to undertake to try to advance the process of not only bilingualizing the Service, but also of trying to give a better bicultural understanding in the senior levels of the Service.

I think the program is achieving this, but it would not be the government's intention, I am sure, and our Commission certainly would not be recommending to the government, that this kind of program be perpetuated indefinitely.

[*Interpretation*]

The Chairman: Mr. LeBlanc.

Mr. LeBlanc (Rimouski): Perhaps I did not understand the explanations properly. I see that the figures given here include amounts for moving, school expenses and transportation. Are there cases, both in Quebec City and in Toronto, where people taking these courses have their rent, housing, home maintenance, snow removal in winter, etc., provided for them?

[*English*]

Mr. Carson: Yes, Mr. Chairman, all of these costs are being paid. The houses that the candidates are housed in were purchased by the Department of Public Works and are used year after year by each family going in. I think the present arrangement, Mr. Blackburn, is that the individuals are paying a rental in return for this; probably not a market value rental, but they are paying a rental; otherwise, of course, they would have to be taxed on the advantage of free housing.

Mr. Blackburn: That is essentially correct, Mr. Chairman. The actual rental rate is $150 per month per family and the houses are partially furnished. The families have to take all their personal effects, linens, small appliances and other small things, but not the major pieces of furniture. The rent that the candidate pays covers snow removal and the maintenance of the property.

I think Mr. Carson is right in saying that the figure of $150 a month in some cases, in the cases of the larger houses, would not be the market value rent. On the other hand it is possible that in the case of some of the smaller houses, where there are small families, $150 might be a bit on the high side, but they all pay the same rate.

• 1130

I think it is important for the Committee to know that the individuals actually have to pay a good deal out of their own pockets, notwithstanding the generosity of the allowances. As far as we can make out the average cost to the participant is somewhere in the neighbourhood of $1,500 out of his own pocket for each year. So the participant does make some financial contribution to this program as well as the government.

The Chairman: On what would he spend that $1,500?

Mr. Blackburn: The main costs are related to the participation of the wives in the program to the extent that the sizes and ages of their families permit. A wife with a family of small children cannot participate in available language courses at the University of Laval or in various cultural exercises without hiring babysitters and the like.

Additionally, those who have the resources to do so try to establish some on-going contact with the members of the community in which they live. This calls for entertaining in one way or another in an attempt to establish some sort of dialogue between the candidates and the local residents. It is mainly in these two areas that the additional moneys are spent.

There are other odd situations where families have particular problems with particular children because of educational problems, or because of illness or something of that sort, which also involves special problems.

[*Interpretation*]

Mr. LeBlanc (Rimouski): A supplementary question. It is obvious that if in addition we take into account, as was said a little while ago, the salaries of those participants, the total amount might be exorbitant. For instance, let us take the case of a French-Canadian Public Works Civil servant whom you send to Toronto to study English. If he works in the Public Works Department, did

you try to give him work in the Public Works Department in Toronto, and vice versa with a student from Toronto, so that the salary that is being paid to him is productive?

[*English*]

Mr. Carson: Candidates who have been on the program maintain that they have never worked so hard in their lives to keep up with the academic program that they were engaged in. I think to suggest that they took the academic part of the program in the evenings and on the week-ends and in their spare time and tried to carry on their normal work duties during the day would defeat, really, the purpose of the program. It is an attempt to get an individual totally immersed in the culture of the other part of the country, and this can be done only if the individual throws himself fully and completely into an intensive kind of cultural bath such as is being provided by Laval in the case of the Anglophones in Quebec City and the Francophones in Toronto.

Your proposal is one that we are always engaged in, and that is transferring employees from one part of the country to another to carry on their normal duties. Certainly, a good many of the Francophones who have come from Quebec and have worked in Toronto or in Ottawa are achieving exactly the same result but over a very much longer time. They certainly do not get as rich or intense an immersion into the other culture if they are trying to carry on normal duties. Our evidence to date is that you just could not mix these two things of trying to have an individual carry on even a portion of his normal workload or kind of work and at the same time give himself over to doing what is really the equivalent of taking a post-graduate degree in another language.

• 1135

[*Interpretation*]

Mr. LeBlanc (Rimouski): Thank you.

Mr. Laniel: A supplenentary question.

The Chairman: Mr. Laniel, a supplementary question.

[*English*]

Mr. Laniel: I have a supplementary question, Mr. Carson. Speaking of the cost, I think that if we want to make this country more bilingual and make the administration more and more bilingual we will have to pay the price. If we look at your annual report, you have all kinds of training and development programs. How do these programs of administrative training and senior executive programs compare with those programs?

Actually you try in the federal administration to improve the qualifications and the qualities of your senior officers, which is quite comparable to what you are doing with these French classes. If a man is sent on a special course of administration or cost accounting or something like that, you improve the output and the service that this man can give to the federal administration, and I think you are doing the same thing with these French classes, because of the future needs that are coming. How do these costs compare?

Mr. Carson: Mr. Chairman, I think this is a very worthwhile observation. At the present moment, of course, we are spending more money in this crash exercise of language training than we are in our long-term tdministrative training. I do not know whether Mr. Smith can give me the breakdown of the operating costs of the Training and Development Service other than language. Would you have a rough figure?

Mr. R. F. Smith (Director of Administration, Public Service Commission): The rough breakdown is $857,000 for the bureau's training and development as compared to the total of some $4 million for the language bureau. However, this does not cover the entire cost. One of the reasons is that departments do a great deal of normal training in which the Commission does not get financially involved, whereas in language training the Commission carries the whole cost.

Mr. Carson: Mr. Chairman, I suppose over a time we could accumulate data from all the departments which would supplement what we are spending—namely this $800,000 for training and development other than language training. Whether it would come out as approximately the same as we are spending on this major crash endeavour which, of course, is hopefully a self-liquidating operation...

Mr. Laniel: But it could be comparable in the same conditions.

Mr. Carson: Oh, yes.

Mr. Laniel: If you have to transplant a family to Toronto, because the man has to take an administration course at the university, the weekly cost of operation would be about the same, I guess.

Mr. Carson: Exactly.

The Chairman: Mr. Carson, could you explain to the members why the two documents that you sent are not bilingual? They are unilingual. English, of course.

Mr. Carson: My deepest apologies, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. Smith: I feel I must say that as I prepared them they were prepared by a WASP, Mr. Chairman.

The Chairman: Mr. Penner.

• 1140

Mr. Penner: Mr. Chairman, my question goes back to the last time we met Mr. Carson, Is this in order?

The Chairman: Yes.

Mr. Penner: At that time Mr. Robinson was asking about secretaries who work for Members of Parliament. He was regretting that he was unable to hire a bilingual secretary. I was fortunate enough to hire such a person, and I appreciate her services very much. It has been a great asset to have someone who can communicate in the French language in my work in the House of Commons.

In talking about language training for these people, Mr. Carson indicated that at the present time they did not have the resources to take on the clerical staff. He went on to say that for this reason they had recommended payment of the 7 per cent bonus to try to infuse a greater number of people into the Ottawa area. It is my understanding that secretaries to Members of Parliament do not receive this 7 per cent differential or bonus. If I am correct in this, I would like to know why this discrepancy exists, and if there is anything planned to correct it.

Mr. Carson: Mr. Chairman, this is out of my jurisdiction. I was under the impression that it was paid. If it is not, then I would think that the bargaining agents for the parliamentary staffs, namely the two Speakers, should be seized of the problem.

The Chairman: For your information they were seized of the problem. For the time being, it is still under study.

Mr. Penner: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

The Chairman: Representations were made last year regarding the bonus.

Mr. Penner: Thank you.

The Chairman: Mr. Rodrigue?

[*Interpretation*]

Mr. Rodrigue: Among those who have taken part in the program, are there any people who have left the Public Service to get a better paying job in the private industry?

[*English*]

Mr. Carson: Mr. Chairman, not to my knowledge. Not if the group could have gone off to Quebec City or to Toronto. Unless Mr. Blackburn has more current knowledge than I do, I do not think there has been a single one of this group, any of the three groups that have gone for 1966-67, 1967-68, 1968-69. As I mentioned at our last meeting, I cannot give you that same kind of assurance with respect to the young administrative trainees that we bring in and to whom we give a quick immersion in the summer months. There has been the odd one of them who has, to my knowledge, left us shortly after acquiring a second language. But as I mentioned to the Committee at the last meeting, I think that this is a normal business risk that you have to take whenever you give people training.

The Chairman: That was discussed at the meeting we had November 7.

[*Interpretation*]

Is that all, Mr. Rodrigue?

[*English*]

Mr. Thomson.

Mr. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Mr. Chairman, I understand that we are not restricted only to the language program here, and that we can deal with any of the estimates. Am I correct?

I would like to make a comment first. If I were getting these Estimates ready, I would put a little item in there saying just what they were all about. From all you could take from the Estimates, you might be taking in washing or something. I realize this is an internal book that we use within the House and that people understand, but I would add what the Public Service Commission does somewhere in the Estimates, and I might make that suggestion.

• 1145

When you are hiring people, for example, what is the average cost of hiring per person? Does it cost more to hire a director general than it does a secretary? Are you certain that this costs less by using the Public Service Commission, as you do, than it would if each individual department hired its own?

Do you have any rating of efficiency as between departments. For example, you know the work that is required or have an idea of the work required within the Department of Finance, and the Department of Agriculture? Do you have any way of comparing whether one department is as efficient as another? Or do you just hire the people that they want and leave the problem to them?

Do you have any standards as between departments? If there is a job opening, we will say for director general, within the Department and there is someone within that Department who might qualify, does he have to come back through you to get that job or does he just apply within the Department?

I have one final question. I noticed from an item in the paper that the Auditor General also has to get his help through your Department, if I am correct. Would you care to comment on these several areas, please?

Mr. Carson: I should be happy to do so, Mr. Chairman, and if I miss one along the way I hope you will refresh my memory at the end.

I am not sure that having a Public Service Commission involved in the appointment process is really the most efficient way of doing business, but it happens to be the way Parliament has decided that this country should be run in terms of appointments for the very real reason of being able to assure the citizens of the country that appointments are made solely on the basis of merit without any possible input of bureaucratic patronage or nepotism, or political patronage.

This is a tradition that was established in 1918 following the experiments that had taken place in the United Kingdom and the United States, and Canada adopted the same approach in 1918 and we remain committed to it. Parliament, in passing the new Public Service Employment Act in March of 1967, reaffirmed the desirability of maintaining an independent Commission that would take responsibility for the appointment process.

The rules and the regulations that we set up to give effect to the preservation of the merit principle undoubtedly are a little bit more costly, a little bit less efficient, than allowing every Department, every deputy head, to appoint all of his own staff at his own whim. We are trying, however. Through the process of delegating authority to Departments to appoint, under selection standards that we have written and under a monitoring system we have established, about 75 per cent of the appointments will be effected within the jurisdiction of a given department.

We have delegated, as I mentioned a couple of weeks ago, the operational category which is all of the trades and service employees, and are in the process of delegating to Departments the administrative support category which makes up the clerical positions. This is, I suppose, a total of 150,000.

They will be appointed by Departments in a fashion much more analogous to that of a private employer operating a business but with this difference: the appointments will be made to standards the Commission has established, under procedures the Commission has established and under a monitoring the Commission has established.

With respect to the remaining 40,000-odd positions that the Commission has not yet delegated to Departments, we would like to feel that maintaining central co-ordination and central administration of employment for these scientific, professional, administrative, foreign service and executive positions, is a sensible and useful way, in addition to being a method of preserving the merit principle. We would like to feel that it made sense in terms of making maximum utilization of short supply special resources.

If all of the departments of government were to go out on the market competing for economists, statisticians and engineers simultaneously it would be a very inefficient jungle of activity. If all of the departments were to descend on every university across the country each year—all 50 of them—and all start competing with each other for university graduates, there would be just bedlam. And so, I think, there are probably arguments of efficiency as well as arguments of political science in having one central agency co-ordinate the staffing of all professional, scientific, administrative, foreign service and executive positions.

• 1150

We believe this. I am sure you will find some administrators in some departments who feel that they could do it more quickly and more efficiently and with greater flexibility than we can, but if you consider the total good of the public service I think that having a central agency co-ordinating this makes an awful lot of sense.

Mr. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Concerning the efficiency of Departments—I am not asking you to say which you think might be or might not be more efficient—let us use for illustration the Department of Agriculture and the Department of Finance. Do you attempt to make any assessment of whether they are doing what is required of them with the staff they have?

Mr. Carson: That is a Treasury Board responsibility.

Mr. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): That is what I wanted to find out. Thank you.

I have another question or two. If someone is within the Department of Agriculture and there is an opening higher, does he have to go through you?

Mr. Carson: Yes, but this does not mean that a Department will not end up promoting someone within their own shop if he is the best-qualified person within the Public Service.

The routine that is normally followed is that if a deputy, or a director of personnel in a Department, has a vavancy coming up and they have an outstandingly well-qualified person within the Department, they will come to the Commission—and this takes place very often over the telephone; it is not a long-delayed process—and say to us: "We have this vacancy. We have individual "A" that we think is the best qualified person that we know of in the Service. Are you prepared to certify it?" If the staffing officer who is concerned with this particular occupational group knows the field well, and knows that what is being told by the director of personnel is, in effect, undoubtedly the case, then my guess, Mr. Anderson, is that such an appointment might take place almost that afternoon.

Mr. A. R. K. Anderson (Director General of Staffing, Public Service Commission): Give us until the next morning.

Mr. Carson: However, if we have doubts about whether this is really the best-qualified person, or if we feel that we should in fairness to the other economists, statisticians, engineers, administrators, information services people, in all of the other department of government, we will run through our inventory and pick out—and this is being machined—all of the people who could legitimately expect to be considered for this position and either do a paper evaluation of these candidates or call them for a formal appraisal board.

In some areas, where our inventories are perhaps not yet as reliable as we would like to have them, or where we think there may be people in the Public Service who have not yet found their way into our inventory, we will run what we call a "closed competition" and advertise it throughout the Service and let anyone who feels qualified apply and then conduct appraisal boards.

If, after going through the intellectual process of considering all these steps we decide there is no one within the Service who is really as well qualified as this position description calls for, then we would go to open competition and advertise throughout Canada. But that is our last resort.

Mr. Thompson (Battleford-Kindersley): I have one question, Mr. Chairman, which refers to the Auditor General. I understand that they were complaining publicly that they had to get their help through you, and they were not really very happy, as I understood it. Would you care to comment?

• 1155

Mr. Carson: I would be very happy to, Mr. Chairman. The Auditor General, in terms of his appointing authority, is in the same position as every other Deputy Minister of the Government of Canada. Several years ago, as a result of representations that he made about the difficulty of getting a sufficient number of well qualified staff, and in order to give him special service, we appointed one of our officers to go over to the Auditor General's office and work right beside him, and with delegated authority from the Commission to him. It has been our impression that this arrangement has worked fairly well. I think the problem the Auditor General is probably referring to is the chronic problem of a shortage of well qualified people in the particular area of expertise that he needs.

Mr. Thompson (Battleford-Kindersley): Thank you very much.

The Chairman: Mr. Carson, you were speaking about these tenders that are put forward by your Commission. Do they compare with the standards of other countries that we know about?

Mr. Carson: Actually, we think they are better. When we are faced with the matter of

delegating authority to departments we realized from the outset that we were going to have to produce selection standards that could be interpreted by as many as a thousand or two thousand different employment officers across the country. It is very much easier to keep selection standards in the heads of a few of your officers in Ottawa. Once you have to produce a selection standard that is going to be understood and applied with reasonable consistency by countless numbers of people from Newfoundland to British Columbia you have to really produce something that is going to be very clear and very easily understood. We do not know of anyone in any country who has attempted to produce selection standards on the scale, in the order and of the variety that we have been doing them. We went to all the literature of all of the other countries, all of the major employers in the world, and found that nobody had ever attempted to sit down and draft selection standards for as many as 72 ocupational groups, and some of these occupational groups had as many as nine levels within them. It has really been an enormously interesting experimental venture. It is provoking a fair amount of interest on the part of people in other countries and outside employers because to my knowledge this is the first time this kind of a job has been done.

The Chairman: Thank you.

Mr. Carson: That was a long answer, Mr. Chairman.

The Chairman: Well, it is a good one. Mr McCutcheon?

Mr. McCutcheon: I do not want to belabour this point, Mr. Carson, but I want to come back to the difference in expenditure between the people who come from Quebec to Ontario and those people who go from Ontario and Manitoba to Quebec. Just a glance at this would indicate that it costs an average of $4,000 to go one way and $6,000 to go the other. Of course, this brings me to my question which is partially based on the answer you gave me previously about tuitions and this, that and the other thing. Is the Province of Ontario providing more free services? Is this the reason it is cheaper? What is the answer? There has to be an answer for the fact there is an average of $2,000 difference per family here.

Mr. Carson: I will ask Mr. Backburn to elaborate on it. My feeling is that the answer is almost totally tied up in the age distribution of children. Another hidden factor here is that the people who go to Toronto are all at a higher salary level, therefore enjoying a higher standard of living and with more goods and chattels than the younger officers with their younger families.

• 1200

Mr. McCutcheon: Yes, but you are sending them to Toronto which, according to the best information we can get, is one of the highest cost of living places in Canada, and yet the cost is $2,000 less than sending them to Quebec.

Mr. Carson: Little children eat less than teenagers.

The Chairman: Mr. Smith, would you like to elaborate on this?

Mr. Smith: The actual cost of living difference between the two cities does not affect these particular figures. The main differences in cost are in the removal area. There is one factor that I think has to be taken into account. In each case the public servant, who is leaving either Ottawa or Quebec City to go to his location for bicultural training, has to make arrangements for the disposal of his accommodation either on a rental basis, selling or breaking lease arrangements, and so on, for that one-year period. In at least a number of specific cases of the Ottawa people, in order for them to make an arrangement for someone to take over their houses in Ottawa when they moved to Quebec they were placed in the position of having to go into alternative accommodation for a period of a week or 10 days until the Quebec accommodation was ready for their occupancy. This type of thing, particularly where you have teenage children who eat three healthy meals a day, plus the number of units and motel accommodations, and so on, that you need, has accounted for some of the spread in cost. On the whole the francophones who come to Toronto, being younger were formerly in apartment situations and they were able to dispose more readily and quickly of their living quarters and get into their Toronto accommodation with more ease. There is also another factor, in that the Toronto accommodation for this group was sitting ready and waiting for them, there was no one in it, whereas in many instances the Quebec accommodation had the previous year's tenants moving out and then the new people coming in.

Mr. Carson: I would like Mr. Blackburn to comment on whether there is any significant difference between the educational services, and the cost of them, being provided in Toronto as opposed to Quebec City, other than the difference in the age of the children.

Mr. Blackburn: Mr. Chairman, there is a significant difference. I think Mr. Carson put his finger on it in his initial reply to the hon. member. The average family in the group that are staying in Toronto is made up of two, three or four children, almost all of which are at the elementary school level. There are no problems in terms of paying additional tuition for these children in the Ontario school system in the metropolitan Toronto area.

On the other hand, in the Toronto group there are several very large families. For example, Mr. Wallace, Mr. Godsell and Mr. Langford have about five children each, practically all of whom are teenage children. In Quebec City they have found it impossible to find a program that includes certain aspects of mathematics, for example, that are required in Ontario for grade 13. Special arrangements had to be made to provide tuition for those children in mathematics. Other children who have started in high school have begun a program in languages. I recall one student who opted for French and German, and the Department of Education of Ontario or the local school system—I am not sure which—demands continuity in that program throughout high school for grade 13. Here again there was a program of study available in German in Quebec, but there was not one within the school system which the student could follow and therefore special arrangements again had to be made for the child's tuition. Finally there were several who, because of their limited understanding of French had to go into a private high school in Quebec City or miss, a year; and to have forced the child to miss a year would, in my view, have destroyed the family commitment to this program and made it very awkward.

• 1205

In each case I think the tuition would be about $400 for the semester, which quickly accounts for the $2,000 difference. Therefore, as Mr. Carson explained at first, the principal cost is the result of the difference in the age composition of the children and the numbers involved. Although the points that Mr. Smith made were also valid, and add a little bit here and there, the principal one is tuition for the children.

Mr. Carson: Mr. Chairman, I might just point out that if you examine the case of Mr. Davey there is an expenditure of only $3,300, probably the smallest of any, and this is simply the reflection of the fact that he has no children.

Mr. McCutcheon: It may be a reflection but it is still a lot of money for removal.

The Chairman: Mr. McCutcheon, perhaps it would help Members if we had the breakdown of a family such as a wife and three children going to Quebec and that of a family such as Mr. Poirier's, a wife and three children, going to Toronto. Perhaps we could then make a comparison of some sort.

We would, of course, have to take into account the ages of the children, but we could choose the highest one, that of Mr. Rubinoff, with a wife and three children, at $7,064.15, and, at the Toronto end, the highest, Mr. Poirier, wife and three children, at $4,659.89. Perhaps by a comparison of these figures we could arrive at an understanding of some sort.

Mr. McCutcheon: Perhaps the heading of this, Mr. Chairman, has mislead us a little and it should probably be a little more explanatory.

May I ask one further question?

The Chairman: I am sorry if I interrupted you.

Mr. McCutcheon: No, I am grateful to you because...

Mr. Marchand (Kamloops Cariboo): If I may interject, Mr. McCutcheon, could that be made available to the Committee at its next meeting?

The Chairman: I do not know if it is available. That is the reason for my question.

Mr. Marchand (Kamloops Cariboo): I was about to raise this point. It is an excellent suggestion. It would give us the complete picture. As you suggest, I would be more satisfied if this could be made available.

The Chairman: Would that be agreeable, Mr. Carson? Is it possible to have the breakdown of these figures?

Mr. Carson: Mr. Chairman, perhaps it would be very helpful to the Committee to take a hypothetical family and show the split on the cost of transportation and the cost of the children's tuition. I am not sure that you would be interested in knowing, sir, what say, Mr. Jones...

Mr. McCutcheon: We do not want to deal in pesonalities.

Mr. Carson: Right.

Mr. McCutcheon: Mr. Chairman, I have one further question.

When an employee is accepted, or is nominated, for this course do you require of him a guarantee or a commitment that he will stay with the public service for a period of time subsequent to this course?

Mr. Carson: Mr. Chairman, we have not attempted to get anything in writing from these individuals. Experience of courts' decisions shows that it is not worth the paper it is printed on, because it is sort of enforced slavery.

There is, however, a clear, moral undertaking expected from each of these individuals—and they are sufficiently senior that it is built into their whole ethical approach—that this is not only their intention but that there is a very very strong expectation on the part of the Government that this will be the pattern.

• 1210

We are limiting our selection now to those who clearly have a known career ahead of them within the public service. They know, and the employer knows that this investment is being made only to enhance their usefulness in the public service.

I do not know if Mr. Blackburn meets all of them at the time of their selection, or whether he makes any of them take an oath, but I think this is clearly understood between both parties, is it?

Mr. Blackburn: You are quite right, Mr. Carson, that a commitment to serve an employer is, and has been, regarded by the courts as unenforceable in law.

It must be remembered that every one of these candidates has a very substantial personal investment in the form of pension funds and the various other fringe benefits that are offered to employees in the public service. As Mr. Carson has said, everyone of them has proven his competence and you simply cannot bind them to slavery even for a specified period.

The only thing we could do is subject them to some sort of moral undertaking. All, I can do is place myself in the position of one of these candidates. Assuming that this considerable sum of money has been spent on me, if I deserted the service before having given some return on that investment I think I would expect to be regarded by the service as being not very sound.

Mr. McCutcheon: You would not look for a letter of recommendation?

Mr. Blackburn: No; that I would not do. About the only force we can use is that of a simple moral responsibility.

The Chairman: Mr. Laniel?

Mr. Laniel: I have a supplementary on that. By what you say you seem to contest what they do in the Armed Forces. Pilots and officers that have to serve for five years. Those who are taking the university officers' training course have to serve for three years, or five years, now, I think.

Mr. Blackburn: I cannot speak to the contract of engagement for services in the Armed Forces, but we have been told repeatedly that the contract which binds a person to serve a particular employer is actually forbidden in law. As I say, I do not know what the contractual arrangements are between the Department of National Defence and the candidates for the ROTP program, or what used to be the ROTP program.

Mr. Anderson: Mr. Chairman, I have a little information on this. The essence of it is thain law a member of the forces is not an employee. The relationship between an officer in the forces and the Crown is different from that between a civilian employee and the Crown.

The Chairman: Mr. Anderson, do you know how it operates in the Armed Forces?

Mr. Anderson: Yes; there is a signed agreement in the case of the...

The Chairman: There is a signed agreement between the Government and...

Mr. Anderson: Yes; the Government undertakes to give educational training, and so on, and the candidate now undertakes to serve for a period of I think, five years. There are arrangements for breaking the contract, but there is a financial penalty involved.

The Chairman: If they break the contract they have to reimburse the Government for whatever expenses were involved in their training.

Mr. Anderson: Yes.

The Chairman: But that does not apply to your Commission?

Mr. Anderson: No.

The Chairman: It does not work in the same way.

Mr. Carson: Mr. Chairman, it would be almost impossible to introduce that kind of philosophy or practice into a domestic or civilian service because the whole folklore of the employer-employee relationships in the private sector would be in opposition to it; and all of the precedents of court decisions in the past.

The Chairman: Mr. McCutcheon?

• 1215

Mr. McCutcheon: Recent accounts of the Public Accounts Committee, to which Mr. Anderson referred a few minutes ago, suggest that even your Department comes under the jurisdiction of the Auditor General. The inference, of course, is that you are hiring people to examine yourselves. Why can Mr. Henderson not appoint his own staff?

Mr. Carson: I think the short answer, Mr. Chairman, is that if you exclude any one agency from the merit principle you have no sound ground for not going on and excluding one by one all of the others. You have then eroded the merit principle and it goes down the drain. It is the business, as you know, of one very good case being made in this situation, but it immediately serves as a precedent for another one.

There is another very good reason why I think it is in the Public Service's interest. There are many, many departments of government that can offer career opportunities for the accountants and auditing personnel that the Public Service Commission engages. The Auditor General is one very fine opportunity for placement and for career development but I would hate to think that people that were hired by the Auditor General were committed to a lifetime career in that one narrow agency. That would be all they could ever look forward to. There would be no opportunity for them to broaden their skills in the taxation division, in Treasury Board and in countless other departments and it is in order to give a fully rounded career opportunity to professionals that we try to ensure one Public Service for appointment purposes. The minute you take an agency out, then that agency is deprived of access to the people that you have throughout the Public Service and the individuals are deprived of the career opportunities that would exist in other departments. I think it would be a very short-sighted policy.

Mr. McCutcheon: Thank you very much.

The Chairman: One thing, though, that is very important regarding training now given accountants by the Auditor General is that this training is accepted by the two main chartered accountant institutes of Canada, those of Ontario and Quebec. I do not believe that if we took another position with another department the training there would be accepted by the institutes. There is quite a difference between the two.

Mr. Carson: Mr. Chairman, I would beg to differ. I think it would be quite possible for other departments, if it served their purposes, to negotiate apprenticing or articling arrangements with the institutes. As it is, the taxation department is regarded as a very important training ground by almost every young C.A. as he comes out of his private C. C. course. A tour of duty in the taxation department gains him the special insights and understandings that this experience can give. In terms of professional career development I think it would be a mistake to erode the unity of the Public Service by detaching one particular unit and saying that it should be on its own.

The Chairman: Mr. Thomson, do you have a supplementary?

Mr. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Mr. Chairman, it occurs to me that if the Auditor General gets too rough with one department, rightly or wrongly—I am not arguing that at the moment—when that department wants staff of a similar nature and has been given a going-over by the Auditor General there might be a certain amount of resistance here to hiring anyone from the Auditor General's staff on from that department. I could understand it, particularly if they had been worked over, as they have been on occasion. I think in this case your argument might not necessarily apply. They might not want him at any place on any condition. I can see merits both ways, as you suggest. But on the other

hand he might be a *persona non grata* with some departments of government regardless of his qualifications.

• 1220

Mr. Carson: Mr. Chairman, I think the Auditor General himself takes personal responsibility for everything that appears in his report and that his staff are absolved.

Mr. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): I see.

The Chairman: Mr. Carson, I did not want to imply that the training in other departments was not as good as the training in the Auditor General's office, but to my knowledge this is the only department that is now, at least for the time being, accepted by the two institutes. The other departments apparently did not request that acceptance but I am sure they would be accepted.

Mr. Carson: I think so. It happened to be professionally very attractive to the Auditor General to do it in this way and he went out and personally sought it.

The Chairman: Yes. Then it was easier for him to get employees as that is very important to an accountant who wants to become a chartered accountant. Mr. Laniel.

Mr. Laniel: Mr. Carson, your Annual Report of 1967 gives us some figures in the appendices at the end. Appendix "A" gives us the total number of employees under the Act. The figures there are 1967 figures. Is that at the end of 1967 or March, 1967? Would this be at the end of the fiscal year?

Mr. Carson: I think these are struck in September, September 30. We are dependent on the Dominion Bureau of Statistics for our runs on these and my impression is that September 30 is their cut date.

Mr. Laniel: Is it possible to get the total number of employees under the Act as of September 1968?

Mr. Carson: We will be supplying that to you in our annual report shortly.

Mr. Laniel: Yes, but I mean for the Committee. The reason I ask this is that I have the impression that for the past two years the majority of the departments have been going through some kind of austerity program as far as hiring people is concerned. There has been quite a bit of reclassification. To my knowledge competitions open to the public have been cut down very much. Also, at local offices of departments in the field you will notice that they do not replace employees and they distribute the work and then we come to September 1967 with an increase of 55,000 civilian employees. I wonder if that trend is still going up. I hope the austerity stops if it is going to be like that. This is why I asked for the figure.

Mr. Carson: Mr. Chairman, I wonder if I could clarify the significance of the asterisk beside the 200,329, as opposed to 145,783. On March 13, 1967, with the passage of the Public Service Employment Act, Parliament brought all of prevailing rate employees and the ships' officers and crews—a total of about 60,000 additional positions—under the umbrella of the Public Service Employment Act. This does not represent a net increase in the size of the Public Service. It represents a net increase in the size of the parish of the Public Service Commission.

Mr. Laniel: Well, then, I guess the mistake you made is in not having put in a bracket there with a figure next to this.

Mr. Carson: My asterisk does show it.

Mr. Laniel: The asterisk shows it but it says it includes prevailing rate employees. To me this could be 2,000 or 20,000; I do not know. But still I would like to have these figures to see in what direction we are going.

Mr. Carson: Mr. Chairman, if the Committee wishes we will provide the 1968 figures as soon as they are available to us in advance of the annual report.

Mr. Laniel: Thank you.

The Chairman: It would be very nice for understanding the estimates at this time.

Mr. Peddle: Mr. Carson, we talk of the Public Service Commission. You have commissioners. How many?

Mr. Carson: Three.

Mr. Peddle: That answers the question. Who appoints them?

Mr. Carson: The Governor in Council. They are appointed for a 10-year term. They do not serve during pleasure. They are appointed for a 10-year term certain and can be removed only on a joint address to both Houses. Dr. Labonte, one of my colleagues, has been serving now for about nine months. I have been serving for three years and my colleague, Miss Addison, will complete her term of office next February 1.

• 1225

The Chairman: Mr. Laniel.

Mr. Laniel: The first part of my question is: who establishes the qualification requirements for competitions—high level competitions? The second part is really loaded. I know you cannot answer it but I want to ask it; I want it on the record. Do you get the impression sometimes that qualifications announced in a competition seem to correspond to an individual? This is the impression we get, and it is not easy to have two years and a half experience in this, and three months in that, and four years and three-quarter in the other thing.

Mr. Carson: Mr. Chairman, I am just delighted that you asked this question because it gives me an opportunity to clarify or to try to lay to rest a ghost that has always lingered around the Public Service.

We are under no requirement to advertise a competition. Advertising is expensive. We would prefer not to advertise. The only times we ever advertise is when we do not feel we can find the person we want without advertising and so, although an advertisement may seem to some people to be designated for some particular individual that either we or a department had in mind, let me assure you this is not the case.

The only times we advertise is when we do not know who the person is. I would like to have this on the record and try to convince you of it because, since the passage of the 1967 Act, we are under no requirement to advertise. We spend the very costly amounts of money involved in advertising only when we do not know who the person should be.

Mr. Anderson, do you want to add anything to this?

Mr. Anderson: The only thing I would like to add, Mr. Carson, is that in our advertising, because of the new selection standards that you have referred to, we are moving away from a requirement of fixed numbers of years of experience of various sorts. Our selection standards do not have hard time periods involved in them and our advertising more and more is in general terms. It requires experience of a certain sort but not a certain number of years of that kind of experience.

Mr. Laniel: Do you have open competitions for the preparation of lists of candidates who could be selected in order of qualifications from the competition as you do at lower levels? In the field of engineering, let us say, you hold a competition at the beginning of the year. This is exactly what I mean, a competition for an engineer. Are you trying to fill one job in one department, and perhaps you are in some specific cases, but are you also trying to select some people in advance who could be called in within a few months or so?

Mr. Carson: I think I would like to ask Mr. Anderson to comment on this. The short answer is both, but I think Mr. Anderson can tell you more than that.

Mr. Anderson: Mr. Chairman, in the particular case of engineers, as Mr. Carson has said we do both. There are some kinds of positions, particularly the more senior ones, that require engineers with particular kinds of training and particular kinds of experience. At the more junior level we have, for example, a university recruiting program to recruit young engineers who graduate from universities without any experience and indeed at this minute we have teams of people visiting the various universities trying to identify and interest young graduating engineers in employment in the Public Service.

In the case of engineers, which has tended to be of recent years a shortage occupation, we have more engineering jobs typically than we have people who want to be employed as engineers and who have the proper qualifications. Therefore, of recent years we have made substantial use of what we call the continuing competition. There is a series of competitions that permit our engineering staffing officers to employ engineers for vacancies that are known to exist and that is known will exist within the year, so that if by any chance an engineer walked in off the street fully qualified, ready to go to work, our staffing people can sign him up and put him to work.

• 1230

The continuing competition is different from the normal competition in that it has no terminating date. It rests on the assumption that there will always be a job that can be offered to anyone who qualifies.

Mr. Laniel: The reason I ask this is because sometimes we do meet people, not at the university because they know there, who have been in industry or on the general market and who want to enter the federal service. We refer to a department and they go around and they get fed up. They could be good employees and perhaps it is a matter of our being informed so as to send them directly to you where they could participate in a competition of qualification, I would call it, whereby you could judge the qualities of a

man and his experience and then have a list available and earmark that man, either to put him in a competition, as you said Mr. Carson, or use him directly in a specific responsibility when there is an opening.

Mr. Anderson: We are trying to build up this kind of technique, sir, through the use of what we refer to as candidate inventories. In addition to the continuing competition, we have records of people who are applicants with a summary of their qualifications in a bank that we keep available to look at when a requirement for a particular sort of employee arises.

Mr. Laniel: Do you use IBM data on this? Would that be useful?

Mr. Anderson: We do not at the present time although, as Mr. Carson indicated, we are moving towards the mechanization and computerization of our records. We are not there yet.

Mr. Laniel: Thank you.

Mr. McCutcheon: I have a supplementary Mr. Chairman. Mr. Carson, or one of the gentlemen, referred to the tremendous cost of advertising. What is your advertising budget?

Mr. Anderson: Roughly, three-quarters of a million dollars—$644,000 estimated for 1968-69.

Mr. McCutcheon: I presume you are one of the largest advertisers of government departments. My question is prompted by a statement I saw just the other day that General Motors is the largest advertiser in Canada, followed by the various soap people, and the Government of Canada is number five. Would you be the largest...

Mr. Anderson: I have no information on this.

Mr. Carson: I do not think we would be but I am sure there is a breakdown of that information available somewhere. Departmental estimates would show it, would they not?

Mr. Smith: Yes, but one has to be careful in this. What Mr. Carson was referring to was direct newspaper advertising which is something less than that $600,000. As the estimates are constituted at present it is very difficult to break down public relations information material and advertising, and direct advertising would be something in the order of $400,000 a year for the Commission.

• 1235

Mr. McCutcheon: By direct do you mean advertising for employees?

Mr. Smith: Yes.

Mr. McCutcheon: And the rest of it would be treated in the same way as soap advertising.

Mr. Smith: Well not really.

Mr. Carson: A much better grade of soap.

Mr. Smith: But a number of departments have very high-level publication systems which fall under advertising.

Mr. Carson: We do not use an advertising agency because we feel that to maintain the independence of the Commission we should place our own advertising through our own channels.

Mr. McCutcheon: Thank you very much.

The Chairman: Gentlemen, as we have been sitting without a quorum we will again stand Vote 80 Salaries and Contingencies, $13,391,200.

Because we have been sitting without a quorum, we will later need the authority to have today's proceedings printed.

Is it agreed that the lists supplied by the Public Service Commission in respect of the bicultural development program be also printed, subject to our getting such authority.

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

The Chairman: We will now adjourn until Friday, November 29 at 9.30. Because we missed a quorum by one member the two votes will have to stand and the same witnesses will be returning.

Mr. Carson: Is this tomorrow at 9.30?

The Chairman: No, November 29. Can you be here on that date?

Mr. Carson: Mr. Chairman, I will be attending a French language immersion course next week in Quebec City. One of my colleagues could come and I am sure that Mr. Blackburn and Mr. Anderson can supply all the technical information that you would like.

The Chairman: Would that be agreeable?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

The Chairman: The meeting is now adjourned until Friday, November 29 at 9.30.

APPENDIX "A"

CANDIDATE SELECTED TO GO TO TORONTO

1966–1967

Name	Office Address	Home Address	No. of Dependants
Roger Lavergne.....	Director General, Education Programs, Department of National Defence, "A" Building, Ottawa.	556 Wolffdale Crescent, Ottawa.	2 children wife
F. A. G. Carter.....	Director, Northern Administration Br., Department of Northern Affairs and National Resources, Ottawa.	3 Greenhill Way, Ottawa.	4 children wife
R. A. Cathro.....	Director of Transportation, Post Office Department, Ottawa.	1159 Meadowlands Dr., Ottawa.	no children wife
V. Johnston.....	Tax Force on Labour Relations, Privy Council Office, Ottawa.	256 Crocus, Ottawa.	2 children wife
T. C. Jones.....	Deputy Director, Machinery Branch, Department of Industry, Ottawa.	111 Wurtemburg, Ottawa.	no children wife
C. R. Patterson.....	Director General, Energy Measures Organization, Ottawa.	2433 Rosewood, Ottawa.	3 children wife
Dr. E. A. Watkinson.....	Director of Health Services, Department of National Health and Welfare, Ottawa.	32 Leacock Way, Stittsville.	no children wife
Dr. K. F. Wells.....	Veterinary Director General, Department of Agriculture, Ottawa.	Rocky Point Road, Ottawa.	no children wife
J. M. Woodard.....	Commissioner, Board of Transport Commissioners, Ottawa.	257 Lisgar, Ottawa.	no children Bachelor

CANDIDATES SELECTED TO GO TO QUEBEC CITY

1967–1968

Name	Office Address	Home Address	No. of Dependants
A. G. Bland	President Defence Construction (1951) Ltd. Kenson Building, Ottawa.	22 Riverside Drive, Manotick, Ontario.	Wife and 2 children
W. B. Brittain	Director General of Administration, Department of National Health and Welfare, Brooke-Claxton Building, Ottawa.	10 Chinook Crescent, Ottawa.	Wife and 2 children
Dr. J. H. Chapman	Deputy Chief Superintendent, Defence Research Telecommunications Establishment, Ottawa.	1368 Morley Blvd., Ottawa.	Wife and 5 children
A. E. Coll	Prairie Regional Supervisor, Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation, 870 Portage Avenue, Winnipeg, Manitoba.	155½ Wellington Cres., Winnipeg, Manitoba	Wife and 1 child
A. D. Davey	Director of Poultry Division, Production and Marketing Branch, Department of Agriculture, Sir John Carling Building, Ottawa.	11 Mamaimo Street, Bells Corners, Ottawa.	Wife
J. P. Francis	Director of Planning and Evaluation Branch, Programme Development Service, Department of Manpower and Immigration, Bourque Building, Ottawa.	347 Second Avenue, Ottawa.	Wife and 2 children
J. M. Gifford	Director of Personnel and Administrative Services, Unemployment Insurance Commission, Ottawa.	16 Birch Avenue, Rockcliffe, Ontario.	Wife and 1 child
J. F. Godsell	Director, Applied Sciences Program, Staffing Branch, Public Service Commission, Ottawa.	81 Grenfell Crescent, Ottawa.	Wife and 4 children
Dr. D. G. Hamilton	Assistant Director General of Research, Department of Agriculture, Central Experimental Farm, Ottawa.	475 Denbury Avenue, Ottawa.	Wife and 1 child
Alex Lane	Director of Section II, Office of Trade Relations, Department of Trade and Commerce, Ottawa.	10 Aleutian Road, Ottawa.	Wife and 4 children
J. A. Langford	Assistant Deputy Minister (Design), Department of Public Works, Sir Charles Tupper Building, Ottawa.	3703 Revelstoke Drive, Ottawa.	Wife and 5 children
D. F. McBurney	Director of Audit, Administration Branch, Department of National Defence, A building, Ottawa.	643 Westview Avenue, Ottawa.	Mother, wife and 2 children

CANDIDATES SELECTED TO GO TO QUEBEC CITY

1967–1968

Name	Office Address	Home Address	No. of Dependants
Dr. J. H. Meek.....	Superintendent, Communications Laboratory, Defence Research Board, Ottawa.	2365 Ridgecrest Place, Ottawa.	Wife and 3 children
J. E. E. Osborne.....	Director of Research and Statistics, Department of National Health and Welfare, Brooke–Claxton Building, Ottawa.	4 Cherrywood Drive, Ottawa.	Wife and 2 children
D. M. Ripley.....	Director, Marine Hydraulics, Department of Transport, Ottawa.	R.R. No. 1, Ingleside, Ontario.	Wife
R. G. Robertson.....	Clerk of the Privy Council, Privy Council Office, Ottawa.	20 Westward Way, Rockcliffe, Ontario.	Wife and 2 children
A. S. Rubinoff.....	Director, Economic Analysis Division, Department of Finance, Ottawa.	458 Halldon Place, Ottawa.	Wife and 3 children
R. A. Shier.....	Director, Engineering Branch, Board of Transport Commissioners, Centennial Tower, Ottawa.	2111 Delmar Drive, Ottawa.	Wife
D. Stansfield.....	Counsellor, Department of External Affairs, Ottawa.		Wife and 2 children
J. F. Wallace.....	Acting Director General, Emergency Measures Org., Centennial Tower, Ottawa.	44 Evergreen Drive, Ottawa.	Wife and 5 children

May 23, 1967.

CANDIDATES SELECTED TO GO TO TORONTO

1967–1968

Name	Office Address	Home Address	No. of Dependants
P. Poirier	Chief of Inspection Section, Department of Fisheries, Champlain Harbour Station, Wolfe's Cove, Quebec.	3374 Nelligan Street, Ste-Foy, Que.	Wife and 3 children
Dr. J. P. E. C. Boutet	Director, Out Patients' Clinic, Department of Veterans Affairs, 2705 Laurier Blvd., Ste-Foy, Que.	1375 Maréchal Foch Ave., Québec.	Wife and 4 children
Marcel Sigouin	Regional Director, Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation, 2350 Manella, Town of Mount Royal, Montreal.	60 Gilmour Avenue, Pierrefonds, Que.	Wife and 2 children
G. E. Gaudreau	Chief, Management Services Division, Emergency Measures Organization, Centennial Tower, Ottawa.	19 Rouleau Street, Wrightville, P.Q.	Wife and 3 children
G. W. Matte	General Directorate, Electronic Systems and Telecommunications, Department of National Defence, Ottawa.	383 Cercle Maria-Goretti, Ottawa.	Wife and 3 children
Marcel Piché	St. Lawrence Ship Channel, Department of Transport, Room 1000, Place Delorimier, 2120 Sherbrooke Street East, Montreal.	195 Varry Street, Ville St-Laurent, Montreal.	Wife and 2 children
Jacques Côté	Special Projects Officer, Deputy Emergency Measures, Assistant Deputy Minister General's Office, Department of Transport, Ottawa.	584 Manor Avenue, Rockcliffe, Ontario.	Wife and 2 children
Noel Paquette	District Marine Agent, Department of Transport, Sorel, Que.	2200 Cardin Avenue, Tracey, P. Q.	Wife and 4 children
Jacques Girard	Assistant District Engineer, Department of Public Works, Rimouski, Que.	25 Rouleau Street, Rimouski, Que.	Wife and 4 children
J. A. G. LeBlond	Assessor, Department of National Revenue (Taxation) Pollack Building, 750 Charest Blvd., Quebec.	2715 Champfleury, Québec.	Wife and 3 children

BICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

Costs of Removal, Tuition and Transportation of Candidates and their families, 1967-68 School Year

QUEBEC

A. G. Bland (Wife and 2 Children)	$ 5,413.35	
W. B. Brittain (Wife and 2 Children)	5,873.69	
Dr. J. H. Chapman (Wife and 5 Children)	8,163.40	
A. E. Coll (Wife and 1 Child)	5,378.68	
A. D. Davey (Wife)	3,303.66	
J. P. Francis (Wife and 2 Children)	5,223.67	
J. M. Gifford (Wife and 1 Child)	4,842.78	
J. F. Godsell (Wife and 4 Children)	8,355.93	
Dr. D. G. Hamilton (Wife and 1 Child)	4,692.06	
Alex. Lane (Wife and 4 Children)	7,410.89	
J. A. Langford (Wife and 5 Children)	8,471.39	
D. F. McBurney (Mother, Wife and 2 Children)	6,245.28	
Dr. J. H. Meek (Wife and 3 Children)	6,071.60	
J. E. Osborne (Wife and 2 Children)	5,754.11	
D. M. Ripley (Wife)	3,469.83	
R. G. Robertson (Wife and 2 Children)	4,822.31	
A. S. Rubinoff (Wife and 3 Children)	7,064.15	
R. A. Shier (Wife)	3,275.59	
D. Stansfield (Wife and 2 Children)	6,101.96	
J. F. Wallace (Wife and 5 Children)	9,333.82	(119,268.15)

TORONTO

R. Poirier (Wife and 3 Children)	4,659.89	
Dr. J. P. Boutet (Wife and 4 Children)	4,317.27	
Marcel Sigouin (Wife and 2 Children)	3,635.12	
G. E. Gaudreau (Wife and 3 Children)	3,567.02	
G. W. Matte (Wife and 3 Children)	4,608.55	
Marcel Piché (Wife and 2 Children)	4,742.99	
Jacques Coté (Wife and 2 Children)	3,903.31	
Noel Paquette (Wife and 4 Children)	5,140.71	
J. Girard (Wife and 4 Children)	5,942.41	
J. A. G. LeBlond (Wife and 3 Children)	4,033.04	(44,550.31)
	$163,818.46	

OFFICIAL REPORT OF MINUTES

OF

PROCEEDINGS AND EVIDENCE

This edition contains the English deliberations and/or a translation into English of the French.

Copies and complete sets are available to the public by subscription to the Queen's Printer. Cost varies according to Committees.

Translations under the direction of the Bureau for Translations, Secretary of State.

ALISTAIR FRASER,

The Clerk of the House.

HOUSE OF COMMONS

First Session—Twenty-eighth Parliament

1968

STANDING COMMITTEE

ON

MISCELLANEOUS ESTIMATES

Chairman: Mr. FERNAND E. LEBLANC

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS AND EVIDENCE

No. 5

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 3, 1968

Respecting

The items listed in the Revised Main Estimates for 1968-69, relating to the Public Service Commission.

WITNESSES:

Representing the Public Service Commission: Miss Ruth Addison, Commissioner; Messrs. A. R. K. Anderson, Director General of Staffing; G. A. Blackburn, Director General of the Language Bureau; R. F. Smith, Director of Administration.

ROGER DUHAMEL, F.R.S.C.
QUEEN'S PRINTER AND CONTROLLER OF STATIONERY
OTTAWA, 1968

29287—1

STANDING COMMITTEE

ON

MISCELLANEOUS ESTIMATES

Chairman: Mr. Fernand E. Leblanc

Vice-Chairman: Mr. Aurélian Noël

and Messrs.

Alkenbrack,	Marchand (*Kamloops-Cariboo*),	Penner,
[1] Durante,	Mather,	Perrault,
Éthier,	McCutcheon,	Robinson,
Gillespie,	Paproski,	Rochon,
Gundlock,	Peddle,	Rodrigue,
Laniel,		Schumacher,
		Thomson (*Battleford-Kindersley*)—20.

(Quorum 11)

Gabrielle Savard,
Clerk of the Committee.

[1] Mr. Durante replaced Mr. LeBlanc (Rimouski) on December 2nd.

CORRIGENDUM

Issue No. 4, page 41—APPENDIX A

Insert, after name and address of Roger Lavergne, the following heading:

CANDIDATES SELECTED TO GO TO QUEBEC CITY—1966-1967.

ORDER OF REFERENCE

MONDAY, December 2, 1968.

Ordered,—That the name of Mr. Durante be substituted for that of Mr. LeBlanc (Rimouski) on the Standing Committee on Miscellaneous Estimates.

ATTEST:

ALISTAIR FRASER
The Clerk of the House of Commons.

29287—1½

REPORT TO THE HOUSE

WEDNESDAY, December 4, 1968.

The Standing Committee on Miscellaneous Estimates has the honour tc present its

FIRST REPORT

Pursuant to its Order of Reference of Wednesday, October 16, 1968, your Committee has considered the items listed in the Revised Main Estimates for 1968-69, relating to the Public Service Commission.

Your Committee commends them to the House.

A copy of the relevant Minutes of Proceedings and Evidence (*Issues Nos. 1, 2, 4 and 5*) is tabled.

Respectfully submitted,

FERNAND E. LEBLANC,
Chairman.

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

(*Text*)

TUESDAY, December 3, 1968
(5)

The Standing Committee on Miscellaneous Estimates met this day at 11:12 o'clock a.m., the Chairman, Mr. Fernand E. Leblanc, presiding.

Members present: Messrs. Durante, Laniel, Leblanc (*Laurier*), Marchand (*Kamloops-Cariboo*), Mather, McCutcheon, Paproski, Penner, Perrault, Robinson, Rochon, Rodrigue (12).

In attendance: Representing the Public Service Commission: Miss Ruth Addison, Commissioner; Messrs. A. R. K. Anderson, Director General of Staffing; G. A. Blackburn, Director General of the Language Bureau; R. F. Smith, Director of Administration.

The Committee resumed consideration of the Estimates of the Public Service Comission.

Vote 80—Salaries and contingencies, etc. .....$13,391,200 was called.

Miss Addison, Messrs. Anderson, Blackburn and Smith supplied information to the Members.

On motion of Mr. Paproski, seconded by Mr. Perrault,

Resolved,—That the proceedings of Thursday, November 21, including the appendix, and the evidence given earlier this day be printed as part of the official record of the Committee.

Agreed,—That the document entitled "Analysis of Costs—Bicultural Development Program Participants—Toronto, Québec—1967/68", tabled by the Commission on November 29, be printed as an appendix to this day's proceedings. (*See Appendix B*)

Vote 80 was further discussed.

Vote 80 was carried.

On Vote 85—Construction or Acquisition of Buildings, etc. ....$ 614,700
Miss Addison, Messrs. Smith and Anderson answered questions of the Members.

Vote 85 was carried and the Chairman was ordered to report to the House recommending the Estimates.

The Chairman thanked the officials of the Commission for their cooperation and at 12:15 p.m., the Committee adjourned to 11 o'clock a.m. Thursday, December 5.

Gabrielle Savard,
Clerk of the Committee

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

EVIDENCE

(Recorded by Electronic Apparatus)

Tuesday, December 3, 1968.

• 1111

The Chairman: Gentlemen, I think we should proceed.

As you know, we are resuming consideration of Vote 80 of the Public Sercice Commission for $13,391,200.

—Salaries and contingencies of the Commission including compensation in accordance with the Incentive Award Plan of the Public Service of Canada, and the Public Service Bilingual and Bicultural Development Program, $13,391,200.

The Chairman: I wish to introduce to you one of the Commissioners Miss Ruth Addison, who is the main witness today.

Mr. Robinson: Mr. Chairman, could you tell us what her position is with the Public Service Commission?

The Chairman: Miss Addison is a Commissioner. There are three and they are appointed for 10 years, I understand. Will you explain further, Miss Addison?

Miss Ruth Addison (Commissioner, Public Service Commission): Yes; there are three Public Service Commissioners. The three Commissioners make up the Commission, as we call it, and one of the Commissioners is the Chairman. All the Commissioners are appointed for 10 years. I have been appointed for more than 10 years, actually; I have had a couple of extensions. I was the first woman appointed to the Commission; it is the first time they have had a woman member of the Public Service Commission.

Mr. Robinson: Is it not, Mr. Chairman, that of the three Commissioners one of them is required to be a woman?

Miss Addison: I do not think there is any legal requirement for me to be a woman. Mine was the first appointment made, but it is not a legal requirement.

The Chairman: It is not in the Act?

Miss Addison: No; it is not in the Act.

The Chairman: Were you under the impression, Mr. Robinson, that it is in the Act?

Mr. Robinson: Yes, I was. I seem to recall reading in some of this material that there are three Commissioners, two men and one woman, and that it is a requirement that one of the Commissioners be a woman.

Miss Addison: No, there is no legal requirement but suggestions have been made in a recent report that there should always be at least one woman member on the Commission.

Mr. Robinson: Well, Mr. Chairman, perhaps I should continue with several questions I do not know whether this lady, the Comissioner, is the one to ask, but if I do not ask the questions I will not know.

I was wondering about data processing and to what extent this is being used now and how helpful it is with regard to personnel records.

Miss Addison: I think I will let Mr. Anderson answer that question.

Mr. A. R. K. Anderson (Director, Staffing Branch, Public Service Commission): Mr. Chairman, the matter of personnel records is rather complicated. The Public Service Commission is responsible for only part of the record-keeping activity. Our concern is with those records that are necessary for us to carry out the Commission's statutory functions of recruiting and selection. We are working towards the installation of a computerized system for maintaining our records.

The departments maintain records on their own people and there is a organization called the Central Personnel Records System which

used to be a responsibility of the Bureau of Statistics but which, I believe, in the recent reorganization has become a responsibility of the new Department of Services and Supply. Our concern is to ensure that we do not duplicate the things they are doing and our computer system, which is scheduled to be in operation by about 1971, will be perfectly compatible with the records that are being kept by the departments and with CPRS.

Do you want me to go into detail about what our records consist of?

Mr. Robinson: Well, it would be helpful to know a little bit more about them.

Mr. Anderson: At the present time, before we get our computer installation going, the records are being maintained on a mixture of manual and mechanical punch card type records. We keep records of candidates in competitions with a summary of the qualifications of people who are applicants for employment so that when we have a requirement for a position that calls for certain qualifications, we have on record, and can look at, the qualifications of people who are already applicants.

We also maintain for those people who are in centrally staffed programs what we call employee inventories. The employee inventory consists of the pertinent details with regard to all of the employees in certain occupational groups such as the personnel administrators, the financial administrators and the computer systems people. These are basically kinds of staff who are employed in all, or almost all, departments and who constitute a technical specialty for which it is possible to do some career planning and to arrange for the transfer and promotion of people across departmental lines.

Mr. Robinson: It is interesting that you mention the career planning, because I just wrote the two words down. Is this part of the career planning in the departments to keep, in effect, an inventory of their background and qualifications? Along with this do you keep this up to date as people receive additional qualifications or if they have taken bilingual training and so on? Is all this kept on their record as well?

Mr. Anderson: Career planning is done both at the departmental level and at the Commission level and some aspects of career planning, the broad policy aspects, are done at Treasury Board level. I am sorry, I have forgotten the particular question you asked which had to do with the language—

Mr. Robinson: Basically are these records kept up to date?

Mr. Anderson: Yes, they are.

Mr. Robinson: So that any additional qualification the individual might have would be added to his record, as well as any language courses and things of this nature that they may have taken.

Mr. Anderson: I think I would have to give a qualified "yes" to this. This is the aim, but if I were to suggest that we do this perfectly I would be misleading the Committee.

Mr. Robinson: How current would the records be?

Mr. Anderson: Ideally, I think what I would say is that we probably have a time lag of three to nine months at the present time, because our system is basically manual. Once we have our computer installation, the time lag should be reduced to a period of two to three weeks.

Mr. Robinson: Would this time lag cause any inconvenience or loss of salary or upgrading?

Mr. Anderson: We hope not.

Mr. Robinson: Have there been any complaints in this regard?

Mr. Anderson: There have been a number of cases that have worried us. There has been some tendency for staffing people at both the departmental level and at the Commission level to leave out of account the possibility that the inventory record may be somewhat out of date.

Mr. Robinson: What redress do these people have?

Mr. Anderson: They have redress through the appeal process.

Mr. Robinson: Is there any retroactivity as far as the findings under redress to the appeal?

Mr. Anderson: Potentially, yes. The appeal provisions in the Public Service Employment Act provide that where there is an appoint-

ment, either through a competitive process, but closed in a sense that it is not open to people outside the public service, or where there is a promotion without competition that those whose opportunities for promotion may be prejudiced have an opportunity to appeal to a board established by the Commission, but that is independent of the Commission in the sense that the Commission has no authority to review the findings, but must act in accordance with the finding of the board.

If there has been a promotion which is challenged on appeal and the appeal is upheld, the promotion is not made. This would affect pay in the sense that whoever gets promoted, gets promoted effective from the date that he actually takes up the duties of the new position. In this sense it might affect pay, but it would not affect pay as such. It would only affect the expectation of increased pay through promotion.

• 1120

Mr. Robinson: Does the Commission have anything to do with the RCMP?

Mr. Anderson: No.

Mr. Robinson: I see.

Mr. Anderson: Although this, I think, should be qualified by saying that there are some people who are employed as civilians by the RCMP who are subject to the Public Service Employment Act. The people in the force itself are not subject to the Public Service Employment Act.

Mr. Robinson: In this Item 80 there is a heading "Incentive Awards", and I notice in reading through the annual report something about incentive awards and there is also the question of merit award. Could you explain to me the difference between the two?

Mr. Anderson: Mr. Chairman, could I ask Miss Addison to answer this. She is the outstanding expert on this.

Miss Addison: I happen to be Chairman of the Incentive Award Board and this is a board made up of six other members from the public service who handle this program. There are four parts to the incentive award program. There is the suggestion award program, with which I think you are all familiar, where people put in suggestions and if they are implemented they are given a certain percentage of the savings.

Then there is the merit award program. This is a program which we have set up really more for the use of management to recognize people who are doing a really outstanding job. So often people are doing something that is beyond what is normally expected: they are putting a great deal of effort, imagination and time and so on into the work. Often these people are in a position where they cannot be promoted; the whole structure does not permit promotion at this time. We feel that some recognition to these people is very worth while and this is really the object of the merit award program. It is to recognize people when there really is not any other ordinary means of promotion, and so on. However, the work has to be really outstanding; it has to be a piece of work which they have actually carried out themselves. It is not an extension of the suggestion program. It has to be something more than that. Recommendations for the merit award come from management.

The third part of the program is the outstanding achievement award. Just recently you will have noticed that Mr. Rasminsky has been selected as the recipient for the outstanding achievement award. This selection is made by a board of people entirely outside the public service, people drawn from industry and from universities. They make the selection and inform the Prime Minister of this selection. This person is then the one who receives this award. That is the third part of the incentive award program.

The fourth part is what we call our long service program. Most departments have some kind of recognition for long service, but we found that in a number of departments there were people who had come from other departments and they felt that they did not want to include that time as being part of the time spent in that individual department. So we instituted what we call a long service pin which can be given to people who have served in several departments, but who have served a total of 25 years.

Those four programs make up the incentive award program.

Mr. Robinson: Within this incentive award program that you have been talking about, do you have such a thing as service pay?

Miss Addison: Service pay? I am not sure that I understand that you mean.

Mr. Robinson: This is an additional payment that is made after you have been with an organization for, say, 10 or 15 years?

Miss Addison: No.

Mr. Robinson: You are assumed to have reached a capacity where you are at your top level of performance?

Miss Addison: No.

Mr. Robinson: And as a consequence this additional remuneration is paid. This is quite common in many collective bargaining contracts. Do you have anything of this nature?

Miss Addison: No, this is not part of that program. It is only a pin or a brooch.

• 1125

Mr. Robinson: I have a question about the bilingual program. I noted in the *Christian Science Monitor*, November 23, 1968 that the bill for training in this fiscal year was $4.7 million and it is expected to rise in future years. Could you tell us what the projected cost is of this program for the next five years?

Miss Addison: I thought we had done this before, but perhaps Mr. Blackburn would like to answer this.

The Chairman: That was discussed at the previous meeting.

Mr. Robinson: It must have been the one I missed.

Mr. G. A. Blackburn, (Director General of the Language Bureau): Mr. Chairman, I think the Program Review forecasts an expansion over the next four years to a peak in the neighbourhood of $7 million, followed by a flattening out for a brief period and then a gradual curtailment of activity.

Mr. Robinson: That is all I have at the moment, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. Paproski: Miss Addison it is my understanding that the French teachers who put the Civil Service through their French lessons act as a final judge whether a person should or should not carry on in these French lessons. Is this true?

Miss Addison: The individual teacher does not, no.

Mr. Paproski: Who does?

Mr. Blackburn: The individual student is accepted into training at whatever level the placement test indicates he should enter. During the course of his first immersion in the language training programs, normally there are three teachers taking care of each class who together form some sort of judgment as to whether or not the student is making satisfactory progress. If there is any question at all about the appropriateness of the individual carrying on the program, then there is a rather ritualistic examination made of all the circumstances. The three teachers who have been involved, of course, express their views. However, the final judgment is really made by the Director of Operations. He would be the equivalent of the Superintendent of Education in our system. In other words, there would be the three teachers who are directly involved, a senior teacher—a sort of pedagogical expert—a school principal and finally the Chief of Operations.

Mr. Paproski: What qualifications do these French teachers have? What diplomas do they have?

Mr. Blackburn: The absolute minimum qualification for entrance into the teaching system is a Baccalaureate, generally in arts sometimes in linguistics, sometimes in pedagogy.

Mr. Paproski: These people teach the top echelon of the Civil Service, as well as the lower, is that right?

Mr. Blackburn: That is right, they teach all levels, yes.

Mr. Paproski: Then these teachers come back to you and say: "Well, so and so in the top level of the Civil service is finding it difficult to learn the French language. We just do not think this man is able to cope with bilingualism." What do you do then?

Mr. Blackburn: Normally we would try to discover whether or not there were any particular reasons why this person was having difficulty.

Mr. Paproski: If he just cannot cope with it. I am concerned about this right now sir. I do not know what your name is.

Mr. Blackburn: It is "Blackburn".

Mr. Paproski: Mr. Blackburn, I am concerned because in the short period of time that I have been in Ottawa, I find that in the top civil service there are many people who are concerned about their employment here, because they cannot learn the French language. This is what is concerning me and if this is the case here, I can appreciate that

there might be a morale problem across Canada, because of this situation.

Mr. Blackburn: I see what you are driving at. Really there should be no cause for concern. I am sitting here trying to think of a case where we have actually asked somebody to leave the program, and I cannot. There have been somewhere in the neighborhood of 5,000 people in the system and as far as I can recall nobody has been asked to leave the system for pedagogical reasons.

• 1130

Mr. Paproski: Not yet.

Mr. Blackburn: Not yet, but this could happen.

Mr. Paproski: This could happen, could it?

Mr. Blackburn: We are very concerned.

Mr. McCutcheon: You did not answer that question; it could happen?

Mr. Blackburn: It could happen—indeed it could—but, as I said before, there is a process that involves the teachers and the senior experts in pedagogy and the school principal and the director of operations, designed specifically to make sure that in conference with the individual himself there is general agreement that the time being spent in the language program is time wasted.

This will be a very rare case and, so far as I can foresee, there is usually going to be some particular reason; a hearing impediment, a speech impediment, or perhaps a question of energy—the amount of energy that is required to be put into the job as well as into the language training program may be just too much for him.

Mr. Paproski: It is possible there are people that just cannot grasp a second language. Is this not true, Mr. Blackburn? I do not have any problem with a second language. I can speak Polish and Ukrainian and when we came across to Canada we were told to speak English. This is what we were taught and naturally there is no problem, but if you tell a person who has been in the Civil Service for 18 or 20 years and is one of your top individuals, "Mister, if you do not learn the French language by 1972, you had better start looking for another job", I am afraid there is something wrong—seriously wrong.

Mr. Blackburn: This will never happen, of course.

Mr. Paproski: You can assure us of that, can you?

Mr. Blackburn: I am sure of that.

Mr. Paproski: Well, can Mr. Carson assure us of that?

Mr. Blackburn: I think he could if he were here.

Mr. Paproski: Can the Commissioner assure us of that?

Miss Addison: Yes, I think we can assure you that certainly every consideration will be given to people and certainly no judgment would be made about any individual purely on the basis that he just could not learn French.

Mr. Paproski: Just purely on bilingualism?

Miss Addison: No, I think individual cases like that will have to be taken into account.

The Chairman: Mr. Paproski, will you hold your questions for a while, because I have a few motions to carry through.

As a quorum was not present at our meeting of November 21, a motion is necessary to print the Proceedings of that day.

Mr. Paproski: I move that the proceedings of Thursday, November 21 including the appendix, and the evidence given earlier this day be printed as part of the official record of the Committee.

Motion agreed to.

The Chairman: Following a request made by the Committee, the Commission supplied further information last Friday. These documents are entitled "Analysis of Cost, Bicultural Development Program Participants, Toronto, Quebec, 1967-68". I think that was in response to a request by Mr. McCutcheon. Is it agreed that it be printed as an appendix to this day's Proceedings?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

The Chairman: Now we will resume the consideration of Vote 80. I am sorry if I interrupted you, Mr. Paproski.

Mr. Paproski: I think the Commissioner has stated that she feels there is really no great problem in civil servants being asked to learn the French language, and that due

care will be taken to make sure that even though they cannot learn the French language by 1972, they will be able to get a job, perhaps as elevator operators or something of that nature.

Miss Addison: I think they will get a job all right.

Mr. Paproski: I hope so, and I sincerely believe that this is a problem in your department. You may not be aware of it; perhaps you are up too high to see it.

Miss Addison: No, I am having a problem myself so I know. I know exactly what you are talking about.

• 1135

Mr. Paproski: There is a morale problem in your top group and I think you should look at it very carefully. It stems from people who have passed the age of being able to learn a second language; it is just kind of hard to get back to the books. I think that either Mr. Carson or you and the Commissioners should take a real hard look at it and not worry about what anybody above them is going to say or do, and give new recognition to those people who require it and who deserve it, whether they know how to speak the French language or not. Thank you.

Miss Addison: I can assure you that we are all trying to do the best we can with this language training problem—and there are problems involved in it—and I can assure you that we are certainly looking at it very carefully indeed, and doing the very best we can to help people. The question of the amount of bilingualism that will be necessary for the different jobs, of course, enters into the picture too. I can assure you that we are studying this very carefully at this time.

Mr. McCutcheon: My first question relates to an item on page 462 of the Estimates, and it is Item 4, Professional and Special Services which has increased 150-odd thousand dollars. Could someone tell me what is involved there?

Mr. Anderson: Mr. Chairman, this is associated mostly with the introduction of our computer installation.

Mr. McCutcheon: I see. Will this be a continuing increase, or is this just a one-shot affair?

Mr. Anderson: No, Mr. Chairman. May I ask Mr. Smith to answer this question? My recollection is that it builds up this year, stays at about the same level next year, and then it goes down.

Mr. R. F. Smith (Director of Administration, Public Service Commission): Also in the development of a computer system, we are part way along in this at the present time by buying computer services through the central government data processing centre, and DBS and other government computers. The advantage of this is we are able to develop our programs on rented time and then, when our computer installation is complete, these programs can be transferred into the Commission computer. The cost in this Item 4 will drop very appreciably in about two years' time; in fact, back below the level that is current for this year, 1968-69.

Mr. McCutcheon: That is fine; thank you, very kindly. My next question is this: Is Mr. Nadon, the personnel recruiter in France, under the direction of your Commission?

Miss Addison: Yes, he is. Mr. Nadon is in Paris to do a number of things. Among other things he is there to keep in touch with Canadian students in Europe. We have found that it is very useful to have somebody there who is keeping in touch with them, finding out what they are interested in in order to get them to come and work in the Public Service if we can. There are a great many students abroad at this time and we think it is very important to have somebody over there keeping in touch with them. This is one of his jobs.

Another of his jobs is to do recruiting in those areas of shortages. When we have advertised in Canada and found that we cannot fill a position, we do go to other countries to see if we can find somebody for that position, but only after we have advertised in Canada. This is part of his job.

Another part is to act as personnel adviser to the Ambassador in Paris. He is also doing some reporting work for us concerning what is happening abroad, and he works very closely with his opposite number in London.

Mr. McCutcheon: That was my next question. In what other countries are we involved and how many personnel are so employed?

• 1140

Miss Addison: Well, we just have the one man abroad in Paris. The Treasury Board has somebody working in London who works very closely with our man in Paris and also helps us in this same area.

Mr. McCutcheon: I think I heard you correctly that all of these positions that are filled in the foreign jurisdiction have been suitably advertised and all sources have been explored in Canada to fill these positions before there is any attempt outside.

Miss Addison: Yes, that is correct.

Mr. McCutcheon: According to newspaper reports, there is no need for these foreign recruits to be bilingual. Does this same exemption apply to those civil service applicants in Manitoba or in Quebec?

Miss Addison: Yes; the point is that eventually we expect people to become bilingual.

Mr. McCutcheon: It is not a requisite at the present time for an application to the Civil Service if you are a resident in Canada?

Miss Addison: There are certain jobs where there is an actual requirement to be bilingual and for those jobs you have to be bilingual. There are other jobs for which it is a desirable qualification, but for those jobs for which it is a desirable qualification the same rule would apply to a man in Manitoba or anywhere else.

Mr. McCutcheon: My fear in connection with this is that good prospects in the Province of Quebec could be superseded by the importation of people from France or other places. I think back to the time when I was a youth and it seems to me that in order to qualify, to have a civil service position in this country, you had to have a British accent a mile wide, and those boys were assured pretty important positions, and I would not want our good compatriots from Quebec to have to go through the same sort of thing.

I will pass for the moment.

Miss Addison: I do not think this will happen at all.

The Chairman: Mr. Mather?

Mr. Laniel: May I ask a supplementary, Mr. Chairman? I have seen in practically all of the advertisements of competitions for jobs in the Province of Quebec and, I think, in every competition I have seen in the Province of Quebec, in the qualifications section that English was necessary—obligatoire—and French was optional. If you had this you received better consideration.

I am trying to reach Mr. McCutcheon's point. Will that change? If you are hiring somebody in the Province of Quebec, is there not a chance that someone can at least start on the job, even if he does not know English, and get the same chance to learn English afterwards as the English-speaking population has to learn French?

Miss Addison: Yes; we have the same program for the French-speaking Canadians as we have for the English-speaking Canadians.

Mr. Laniel: I will look back in my files and see what is written on your announcement papers.

Miss Addison: Wherever there is a requirement for a bilingual person there is a requirement for both languages, not just one.

Mr. Laniel: Well, English seems always to be necessary.

Mr. Addison: I cannot believe that—I would have to see some of the posters because we have often asked for bilingual...

Mr. Laniel: I am talking about the posters themselves.

Miss Addison: It would be a very rare occasion, I should think, when there would be one that said English was absolutely necessary in Quebec.

Mr. Laniel: You would be surprised?

Miss Addison: Well, show us some and we will look at them and see.

Mr. Mather: Mr. Chairman, I was interested in the Commissioner's description of the incentive program in its various aspects and I have a question or two on that subject.

• 1145

The suggestions which are received and the awards which are made for the approved suggestions: how does this work? Is this really a good thing? Do you get actual, good saving results or better performance as a result of a good many of the suggestions?

Miss Addison: Yes, we feel that the savings are really quite sizeable. They run around $1

million a year at the present time. We think this could even be increased and we are planning to have a program in which this will, we hope, bring in even more suggestions—good quality suggestions. The general consensus has been that this is worthwhile from an efficiency point of view and we feel it is worthwhile from a morale point of view too, because it enables the individual to feel that he is participating in the work of his department.

Mr. Mather: Did I understand you to say that the savings at this time as a result of the suggestions run around $1 million a year?

Miss Addison: Yes.

Mr. Mather: How about the part that you described as the pins and brooches incentives?

Miss Addison: That is the long service. This is after 25 years of service. They are given a certificate and a pin or a brooch.

Mr. McCutcheon: Do you not give them a watch?

Miss Addison: No, no gold watches.

Mr. Mather: Thank you Madame Commissioner. I heard this phrase "pins and brooches" in regard to incentives and I was just wondering if we might consider, as Members of Parliament, suggesting to Mr. Speaker that he give some pins and brooches to hard-working, good members of Parliament who might deserve it. This is only for long service, I take it.

Miss Addison: Twenty-five years or more.

Mr. Mather: We will never get the pins or brooches.

The Chairman: There are very few of them here.

Mr. Mather: Thank you, that is all I have.

[*Interpretation*]

Mr. Rodrigue: I have a question concerning item 80. There is a new item, No. 5, renting of office machinery, $152,000 Is this a new item, this year? Will it be continued over the years to come? Is it in relation to the professional and special services you mentioned a moment ago, namely the setting up of computers for the new operations?

[*English*]

Mr. Smith: This is an item that has been put in in anticipation of the initial stage of the computer installation and now that the tendering is in on this and the development work is actually beginning, it appears that the item may not be used during the current fiscal year, but it was an initial item put in. It also covers, of course, certain other rentals of equipment, such as photocopy machines and that type of thing. One of the reasons that it did not appear in the previous year is that under the financial concepts we are trying to get costs allocated against programs, so that the money that is shown under a subvote such as staffing, which you are looking at in this particular item, will contain all of the costs of the staffing programs.

Many of you are no doubt aware this has not always been the case and in order to assist Parliament and ourselves to identify the true costs of programs, we are starting to allocate costs where they were not before. Therefore, you will often find a blank space under the previous year and money in the current year. This does not necessarily mean a net gain of this much money.

Mr. Robinson: Would I be permitted a supplementary on this Mr. Chairman?

The Chairman: Mr. Robinson, yes.

Mr. Robinson: I understood this figure of $152,000 had something to do with the rental of the computer equipment.

Mr. Smith: That is correct.

Mr. Robinson: Is it basically that?

Mr. Smith: Basically it is that, yes. I think there is about something like $12,000 for other rentals of other equipment.

Mr. Robinson: So that the cost monthly is some $10,000 to $12,000 a month for the rental of computer equipment?

• 1150

Mr. Smith: I would have to give you a qualified "yes" on that. This was an estimated item put in well in advance, a year or more before we had any details on this computer. I do not know what the actual rental will be. So much depends on the design of computer equipment, how much hardware and how much software is involved.

Mr. Robinson: How many programs do you have scheduled for the computer at this time?

Mr. Smith: This raises an interesting point within the Commission. The original design

for the system for the system of this computer, was basically with the staffing branch to get inventory information, but of course the average computer has a much larger appetite than one system and the Language Bureau and the training and development area of the Commission can in time also be fed into this, and will be undoubtedly.

Mr. Robinson: Are you merely renting time on the computer from the central government agency that has it?

Mr. Smith: No, not under this item of $152,000.

Mr. Robinson: But you will have the computer. . .

Mr. Smith: We will have the physical equipment within the building, yes.

Mr. Robinson: What plans do you have towards renting out additional time on the computer to defray some of the costs?

Mr. Smith: This has been considered. The only short answer one can give on this is at the present time we have not completely assessed our own time requirement on it and therefore it is very difficult to tell you, but it is government policy that any time available on computers wherever they are located must be made available to other government departments.

Mr. Robinson: I would assume that your present plans would perhaps take up less than two hours per day and the computer could be used 24 hours a day, as I understand it.

Mr. Smith: I would tend to quarrel with the amount of time because we are talking here of a real-time computer where requests can be sent in at any point from a number of agencies and therefore I really could not hazard a guess at the moment, but we are anticipating considerably more than two hours.

Mr. Robinson: At the present time you really do not have any plans for other agencies or organizations using your computer time and paying for it?

Mr. Smith: No, the normal drill is that the initial stage is to get the primary program fed in and get the bugs out of it, and then you absorb additional time as you can.

The Chairman: Mr. Paproski, you have a supplementary question?

Mr. Paproski: Yes, a supplementary. When do you think you will have this programmed?

Mr. Smith: We are hoping to have it in full operation by April, 1971.

Mr. Robinson: May I ask, Mr. Chairman, have you any indication as to the savings to the department by computerizing a great deal of this work?

Mr. Smith: I would like to put it in slightly different terms. We see it equating roughly with the manual system we have at the present time. There will be some savings, but the main thing is that we will be able to do things we are not presently able to do manually.

Mr. Robinson: The reason I make this observation is that I come from metropolitan Toronto, the borough of Etobicoke, and we have gone into the computer system there and in trying to use it fully we have allowed the hydro to put their hydro bills on the computer; we have put our tax bills on the computer, the water bills and so on. We are also renting out time to industry to use up the full 24 hours a day if possible and recoup some of the cost of this very expensive equipment. I would hope that your department would do the same thing. At the same time we realize that we are saving a tremendous amount in extra staffing and so on that would not now be required because we can do the same work with fewer people and at the same time we can get a lot more work done. We now find, for instance, that we can sent out a tax bill, if you like, installment taxes, monthly, if we wanted to, much cheaper by using the computer than we could formerly send them out once a year.

• 1155

Mr. Smith: This is the identical context in which we have considered the computer. I am not hedging when I say that we are not in a position to know what additional things will go on from outside the Commission.

Mr. Robinson: Will you be using the computer for pay purposes?

Mr. Smith: No. Central Pay, governs all the pay process for the whole government, but to give you an example, all the commitment information, the inventory of equipment and furnishings, our own personnel records departmentally within the Commis-

sion would all be going on as well as the staffing, language and training and development programs.

Miss Addison: We find now that there is a good deal of information we just do not have, because it just cannot be obtained manually and this is one of the benefits we will get from a computer, that we will be able to get information is not available right now.

Mr. Smith: And more quickly.

Miss Addison: And more quickly. Certainly the intention would be to use it to the utmost; keep it fully occupied, even if we have to go to other departments to be able to do this.

Mr. Smith: I have been very leary of being too optimistic *vis à vis* savings because I think it is a well known fact in this area that savings often tend to be represented by a much greater volume of work and a greater volume of detail and efficiency, but not necessarily a physical saving. This is true in industry as well as in government. That is why I have hedged a little bit with the savings aspect.

Mr. Robinson: Thank you Mr. Chairman.

The Chairman: Any further discussion on this item?

Mr. Robinson: I have about three or four more questions if I still have the floor?

The Chairman: All right, Mr. Robinson go ahead.

Mr. Robinson: On page 16 of the annual report there is a notation with regard to the hiring of handicapped whenever possible, and this apparently was announced as a pilot project.

When we are speaking of the handicapped, are we just talking about the mentally retarded as indicated here or are we also talking about people who have lost a limb or have other disabilities of one sort and another?

Miss Addison: The program really covers anybody who is physically handicapped as well as the mentally retarded.

Mr. Robinson: By the same token, do they have the same benefits and the same rates of pay and so on as anyone else?

Miss Addison: Yes.

The Chairman: Any further discussion?

Mr. Robinson: I have a further question with regard to the Centennial Commission people. I understand certain people were taken on. Was there any way of placing the other people in industry or helping them in some way to be relocated when Centennial celebrations were over at Expo?

Mr. Anderson: Mr. Chairman, so far as the Public Service Commission is concerned, our efforts with respect to the former employees of the Centennial Commission were confined to trying to find places for them in the Public Service, but the Centennial Commission and the Department of the Secretary of State did have other programs aimed at trying to find placements for these people outside the Public Service.

Mr. Robinson: One further question Mr. Chairman, I notice an item that crops up quite frequently in the estimates called "sundries" and it seems to be quite a substantial figure in so many cases. You see an item of $10,000 and $5,000 and smaller figure mentioned, and then you see an item of $128,000 for sundries. Should there not be some reasonable breakdown of this so we have some indication as to what this money is for.

The Chairman: You probably have a breakdown when you are making up the figure?

Mr. Smith: Yes, we do, Mr. Chairman.

The Chairman: You must have, yes.

Mr. Smith: I do not know whether the quick answer would satisfy the member. Under the staffing subvote, where $128,000 is shown, if you go to the breakdown of these various allotments in the back of the blue estimate book you will find that for this particular year "travel other than staff" comes under "sundries".

Mr. Robinson: Where is this in the blue book?

Mr. Smith: In a little pocket at the back of the blue book and there is a breakdown explaining all the various items and what they are for. "Travel, other than staff", in the Staffing Branch refers to candidate-travel, meaning persons outside the Public Service being brought in for examination. That is why the item is a very sizeable one.

• 1200

Mr. Paproski: Mr. Chairman, when is the next meeting, and is The Company of Young Canadians going to be discussed?

The Chairman: If we can finish with the Commission today we will start with the Company of Young Canadians Thursday.

If there is no further discussion, shall Item 80 carry?

Item 80 agreed to.

The Chairman: I now call Item 85.

85. Construction or Acquisition of Buildings, Works, Land and Equipment, including the Public Service Bilingual and Bicultural Development Program .. .. $ 614,700

	1968–69 $	1967–68 $
LANGUAGE		
Construction or Acquisition of Buildings, Works and Land ...	8,000	595,000
Construction or Acquisition of Equipment	364,700	602,000

The Chairman: Those are the two items of Vote 85.

Mr. McCutcheon: I suppose, Mr. Chairman, on the basis that there is a reduction in expenditure we should say "hurrah" and just pack up!

The Chairman: Well, not too early.

Mr. McCutcheon: Probably the Commissioner should explain it so that we know what is going on.

The Chairman: You would like some of the history on it?

Mr. McCutcheon: Yes.

The Chairman: Who is going to reply on that? Mr. Smith?

Mr. Smith: The Committee will note that in 1967-68, under "Construction or Acquisition of Buildings, Works and Land", the figure was $595,000; in 1968-69 it dropped to $8,000.

Capital items traditionally do not follow a pattern of gradual build up or of gradual decrease. The 1967-68 figure represented purchases of housing in Quebec City and Toronto for the Bicultural Program. Hence the half-million dollar figure in there.

For 1968-69 the figure of $8,000 is simply money that has been put in there to create three or four additional rooms within the houses, such as finishing an unfinished basement; this type of thing.

Under "Construction or Acquisition of Equipment", the difference of $242,000 is again accounted for by furnishings that were bought in 1967-68 for these homes in Quebec City and Toronto.

The continuing $364,700 is to equip the classrooms that are used under the Language Training Program and also to provide for some additional equipment for the housing and the odd piece of replacement that may be necessary.

In the language schools, we have such things as language laboratories which are completely electronic and are fairly costly.

Mr. McCutcheon: How long do you visualize that we will own and operate those homes?

Miss Addison: It is rather difficult to put a time on it. Certainly, we expect to occupy for another several years. I do not know. We have never really put a time limit on this.

• 1205

Mr. McCutcheon: No; I do not mean a time limit. We have had experience on this, and we know how the program is going. Surely we can look for the ultimate conclusion of it. I am hoping that land values will continue stable and that you will be able to sell them back and make a little profit for us.

Miss Addison: That is a worthy cause, I agree but exactly when this date will be we are not in a position to say.

Mr. McCutcheon: Would you suggest 10 years?

Miss Addison: Oh, I would hope it would be less than that.

Mr. McCutcheon: Less than 10?

Miss Addison: Relative to those who participate in this program, I would hope that it would be less than ten, but it is difficult to say at this time. The program is working very well indeed and it might be the kind of program that it would be decided to continue.

Mr. Paproski: Mr. Chairman, I have a supplementary question. It would be a wonderful idea if the Public Service Commission were at this stage to buy houses in Ottawa for members of Parliament. I am sure they

would realize a fair and just value after their term in office here for the next 10 or 15 years.

The Chairman: Are there any further questions, gentlemen?

Shall Item 85 carry?

Mr. Robinson: I have one further short question.

The Chairman: Yes.

Mr. Robinson: I notice in Appendix C to the Annual Report a column entitled "Casuals and Others". It shows that some 26,239 persons were working for the federal government in 1967. Who are these people? How are they located? How are they employed? May we have a breakdown on them?

Miss Addison: I am going to let Mr. Anderson comment on that.

Mr. Anderson: Mr. Chairman, this is an enormously difficult question to answer.

Those who are on the payroll under this item, "Casuals and Others", are of several different sorts. Basically, casuals are persons who are required on an urgent basis. There is work to be done it has to be done immediately; and the department feels that it cannot wait for the normal process of selection, which inevitably involves some delay. They need someone right away and they acquire that someone somehow or other and put him on the job.

The sum total of these urgent requirements amounts to a very large number of people.

It seems to me that a whole series of problems arise because of the presence in the government work force of persons who are in so-called casual status and those who are in a continuing status.

The Department of National Defence, for which I used to work, employs large numbers of these sorts of persons and so also does the Department of Public Works.

The Post Office, particularly around Christmas time, also employs several thousand people in the mail handling and mail delivery operations.

This may not be a very satisfactory answer to your question.

Mr. Robinson: Perhaps I can approach it from a slightly different angle. Do they receive the same benefits as other employees?

Mr. Anderson: This gets out of the area of the Commission's responsibility. Under the Public Service Staff Relations Act a person who has been continuously employed for six months or more, regardless of whether he is called a casual or something else, is an employee and receives whatever benefits, in the way of leave, in pay and so on, that are appropriate to his group at his level.

Mr. Robinson: And I assume that these 26,000 are people who have not been employed for longer than six months?

Mr. Anderson: You could assume this, Mr. Robinson, but it would be a false assumption, because, to my personal knowledge, very large numbers of them—

Mr. Robinson: Can we assume they do not belong to the bargaining unit?

• 1210

Mr. Anderson: No, you cannot, Mr. Chairman. They belong to the bargaining unit after they have been continuously employed for six months, and fairly large numbers of casuals and others have, in fact, been employed for six months or more.

Mr. Robinson: Would this include, say, secretaries to Members of Parliament, and consultants?

Mr. Anderson: No; I am not sure what went into that table.

The Chairman: Mr. Smith, would you like to answer that question?

Mr. Smith: In the table these would be persons who were officially recognized as casuals. They would not be secretaries to members of Parliament except in the very odd case of a girl having left a Member of Parliament and he having a casual in until a proper person could be found.

The Chairman: Are there any further questions? Mr. Paproski?

Mr. Paproski: Why was Nadon chosen to stay in France and why did you just pick France? Why did you get this individual from France? He does not live here, but in France; is that right?

Miss Addison: Yes, he does.

Mr. Paproski: Why did you choose him? Why did you not choose someone from Gabon, or St. Boniface in Manitoba?

Miss Addison: Because we have a great number of students in France and in Europe. We want to keep in touch with those people.

The previous year we had someone in London doing this work, and the Treasury Board decided they would put somebody there who could do our share of the work as well; and we decided to put someone in France.

Mr. Paproski: This was the only reason?

Miss Addison: And because of the number of students who are there and the interest that we have in what is happening there.

Mr. Paproski: Thank you.

The Chairman: We still have one in England, anyway.

Miss Addison: He is really a Treasury Board employee, but he also does work for us.

Mr. Paproski: This is the only one you have in France?

Miss Addison: That is right.

Mr. Paproski: And you have one in England?

Miss Addison: He is not our employee; he is an employee of the Treasury Board. But he also does work for us along the same lines, keeping in touch with the—

Mr. Paproski: And they are the only ones you have at this moment?

Miss Addison: Yes.

Mr. McCutcheon: We have no representatives in the low countries?

Miss Addison: No.

Mr. Smith: Mr. Chairman, Mr. Nadon is stationed in Paris but he is responsible for all of Continental Europe.

Miss Addison: Yes, that is right.

Mr. McCutcheon: This is the point about which I wanted to ask.

Miss Addison: This is right. He is responsible for all of Continental Europe—for all the French-speaking countries; and—

Mr. McCutcheon: Wait a minute. For all the French-speaking countries. . .

Miss Addison: And other countries, too.

Mr. McCutcheon: What about the low countries, where they speak Dutch? They make pretty good immigrants, I have found. They constitute about half of the population from where I come, and they are good ones. Does he go down there?

Miss Addison: Yes; he represents the Commission wherever we may be looking for people.

Mr. McCutcheon: I see.

The Chairman: In Europe entirely.

Miss Addison: Yes; in Europe entirely.

The Chairman: Without restriction.

Miss Addison: Without restriction.

The Chairman: Whether the language or the country is different?

Miss Addison: That is right. But if we were interested in someone in Holland, for instance, we might send somebody from here to do our recruiting.

Mr. Paproski: Why would you do that?

Miss Addison: If it were a very specialized type of person we might send someone over to see whether the person was really qualified.

Mr. Paproski: But you have Nadon there. He is qualified to go ahead and do that. It is as though you were saying that only a doctor in Canada can test another doctor for a fellowship. This is what you seem to be saying. Nadon has got to be the greatest, because he is looking after all of Europe, but when it comes to a particular place, where he has to check on somebody, you may call on someone you think might be a little higher than Nadon?

Miss Addison: No.

Mr. Paproski: You have to get somebody...

Miss Addison: No. It would be question of qualifications. If we were looking for a person with very specialized qualifications we might want to send a team over to interview the person; and sometimes we do.

Mr. Paproski: A team? Would you send a few M.P.s, also?

Miss Addison: We would be glad to.

Mr. Paproski: Those who are qualified as personnel selection officers, Miss Addison.

The Chairman: Is there any further discussion on this vote?

Shall Item 85 carry?

Item 85 agreed to.

The Chairman: This completes the study of the Estimates of the Public Service Commission.

Shall I report to the House, recommending the Estimates?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

The Chairman: I wish to thank the witnesses, Miss Addison, Mr. Anderson, Mr. Blackburn and Mr. Smith and the members who have constituted a quorum this morning so that we could finally get through with these two votes.

Next Thursday, at 11 o'clock, the Company of Young Canadians will be reappearing before the Committee. We will carry on with them from where we left off previously.

• 1215

Thank you very much, gentlemen.

APPENDIX "B"

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

ANALYSIS OF COSTS—BICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM PARTICIPANTS—TORONTO, QUEBEC—1967/68

The following information has been developed to demonstrate the relative differences in costs between persons attending the Bicultural Development Program in Quebec City and those attending the same program in Toronto.

An attempt was made to develop two typical families of comparable size in Toronto and Quebec and to relate the costs between these families. In constructing this model, it was found that two separate approaches provided the most meaningful comparisons for study by the Committee. Two illustrations have been prepared, one on a median average of all the families participating in each center and the second on a basic cost average involving all families.

MEDIAN AVERAGE

	Quebec	*Toronto*
Removals	1,120	1,361
Transportation children	305	685
Tuition	3,609	1,336
Books	18	55
Maintenance	625	780
Median	5,677	4,217
Median Average Family	Wife + 2 Children	Wife + 3 Children

ARITHMETIC AVERAGE

Removals	1,136	1,461
Transportation children	309	754
Tuition	3,793	1,386
Books	45	74
Maintenance	680	780
	5,963	4,455
Arithmetic Average Family	Wife + 2.3 Children	Wife + 3 Children

The illustrations show that tuition costs account for the major difference between the two groups. The difference in tuition costs can be traced to the fact that language training of the officers and their wives was received by contract through Laval University in Quebec City whereas in Toronto, language training had to be provided through language schools of the Public Service Commission.

The tables outlined above, however, do not provide an explanation for a cost differential of nearly $3,000 as indicated in some family units from the cost breakdown previously supplied the Committee.

In these cases where the Quebec City candidates reflected higher brackets of expenditure, the additional cost is directly attributable to the summer language training which was provided from Laval University and private educational institutions. At the start of the school year the high school children in these families required special tuition in mathematics under separate contract in order that they might return to the Ontario education system without losing a year of school.

A detailed analysis of the age groupings of the children revealed, contrary to a commonly held belief, that while the parents of the families in Toronto were younger, the children were roughly comparable in age to the children in family units in Quebec. The Toronto children, however, did not require the same special tuition to be compatible with the Quebec education system and were also provided language training through the Public Service Commission facilities resulting in a saving of direct costs.

HOUSE OF COMMONS

First Session—Twenty-eighth Parliament

1968

STANDING COMMITTEE

ON

MISCELLANEOUS ESTIMATES

OFFICIAL REPORT OF MINUTES

OF

PROCEEDINGS AND EVIDENCE

Chairman: Mr. FERNAND E. LEBLANC

Respecting

The items listed in the Revised Main Estimates for 1968-69 relating to the Company of Young Canadians.

WITNESSES:

Representing the Company of Young Canadians: Messrs. Stewart G. Goodings, Assistant Director; Don Brown, Financial Administrator; and Mrs. M. Vennat, Executive Assistant.

QUEEN'S PRINTER AND CONTROLLER OF STATIONERY
OTTAWA, 1968

OFFICIAL REPORT OF MINUTES

OF

PROCEEDINGS AND EVIDENCE

This edition contains the English deliberations and/or a translation into English of the French.

Copies and complete sets are available to the public by subscription to the Queen's Printer. Cost varies according to Committees.

Translations under the direction of the Bureau for Translations, Secretary of State.

ALISTAIR FRASER,

The Clerk of the House.

HOUSE OF COMMONS

First Session—Twenty-eighth Parliament

1968

STANDING COMMITTEE

ON

MISCELLANEOUS ESTIMATES

Chairman: Mr. FERNAND E. LEBLANC

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS AND EVIDENCE

No. 6

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 5, 1968

Respecting

The items listed in the Revised Main Estimates for 1968-69, relating to the Company of Young Canadians.

WITNESSES:

Representing the Company of Young Canadians: Messrs. Stewart G. Goodings, Assistant Director; Glen Brown, Financial Administrator; and Mrs. M. Vennat, Executive Assistant.

ROGER DUHAMEL, F.R.S.C.
QUEEN'S PRINTER AND CONTROLLER OF STATIONERY
OTTAWA, 1968

29289—1

STANDING COMMITTEE
ON
MISCELLANEOUS ESTIMATES

Chairman: Mr. Fernand E. Leblanc

Vice-Chairman: Mr. Aurélien Noël

and Messrs.

Alkenbrack,
Durante,
Éthier,
Gillespie,
Gundlock,
Laniel,
Marchand (*Kamloops-Cariboo*),
Mather,
Paproski,
Peddle,
Penner,
Perrault,
Robinson,
Rochon,
Rodrigue,
Schumacher,
[1]Stewart (*Marquette*),
Thomson (*Battleford-Kindersley*)—20.

(Quorum 11)

Gabrielle Savard,
Clerk of the Committee.

[1] Mr. Stewart (*Marquette*) replaced Mr. McCutcheon on December 4.

ORDER OF REFERENCE

WEDNESDAY, December 4, 1968.

Ordered,—That the name of Mr. Stewart (*Marquette*) be substituted for that of Mr. McCutcheon on the Standing Committee on Miscellaneous Estimates.

ATTEST:

ALISTAIR FRASER,
The Clerk of the House of Commons.

29289—1½

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

(*Text*)

THURSDAY, December 5, 1968.

(6)

The Standing Committee on Miscellaneous Estimates met this day at 11.15 a.m., the Chairman, Mr. Fernand E. Leblanc, presided.

Members present: Messrs. Alkenbrack, Durante, Laniel, Leblanc (*Laurier*), Mather, Penner, Perrault, Robinson, Rodrigue, Schumacher, Stewart (*Marquette*)—(11).

Other Members present: Messrs. Allmand, Nystrom and Stanbury.

In attendance: Representing the Company of Young Canadians: Messrs. Stewart G. Goodings, Assistant Director; Glen Brown, Financial Administrator; and Mrs. M. Vennat, Executive Assistant.

The Committee resumed consideration of the item listed in the Revised Main Estimates for 1968-69, relating to the Company of Young Canadians, previously considered on November 15 (*Issue No. 3*).

Vote 48,—Payment to the Company of Young Canadians...$1,900,000 was called.

The Assistant Director tabled the following information asked for at the previous meeting:

1. List of Consultants' Reports
2. List of Programme Consultants for Indian Projects
3. List of Secretaries and Part Time Help.

On motion of Mr. Laniel, seconded by Mr. Schumacher,

Resolved,—That the above listed documents be printed as appendices to this day's proceedings. (*See Appendices C, D and E.*)

Mr. Goodings brought the attention of the Committee to some corrections he wished to be made in the printed evidence (*Issue No. 3*) and made a short statement.

Mr. Goodings was questioned.

Agreed,—That five consultants' reports commissioned by the Company be made available to the Members of the Committee.

Mr. Goodings was further questioned.

Mr. Brown also supplied information to the Members.

Vote 48 is allowed to stand.

At 12.55 p.m. the Committee adjourned to the call of the Chair.

Gabrielle Savard,
Clerk of the Committee.

EVIDENCE

(Recorded by Electronic Apparatus)

Thursday, December 5, 1968.

• 1115

The Chairman: Gentlemen, on November 15 the Committee proceeded to consideration of the Estimates of the Company of Young Canadians and Item 48, Payment to the Company of Young Canadians, $1,900,000 was allowed to stand. I would now like to introduce the witnesses from the Company. They are the Assistant Director, Mr. Gooding; the Executive Assistant, Mrs. Vennat; the Financial Administrator, Mr. Glen Brown. Some documents were tabled by the Company of Young Canadians with the Committee and I need a motion to have them printed as an appendix to today's minutes of Proceedings and Evidence.

Mr. Laniel: I so move.

Motion agreed to.

The Chairman: I have a list of speakers from the last sitting, but in order to correct some statements that were made on November 15 I think it would be best if Mr. Goodings first made an opening statement. Would you please carry on, Mr. Goodings?

Mr. Stewart G. Goodings (Assistant Director, the Company of Young Canadians): Mr. Chairman, my remarks at the beginning of this meeting will be considerably shorter than they were last week, but I did wish to refer to one or two points that were brought up at the last meeting. First of all there are three corrections, which I would like to draw to the Committee's attention, in the minutes of the proceedings of last week. The first is on page 13 in the second column of my opening statement. The sentence reads:

> This Council establishes policy with the staff and the volunteers implement.

That sentence should read:

> This Council establishes policy which the staff and the volunteers implement.

The second correction occurs on page 17 in an exchange between Mr. LeBlanc, and Mr. Laniel. Mr. LeBlanc is reported as saying:

> Among the aborigines, you said you had about 15 p. 100 of your workers who are working with them.

Mr. Laniel then said:

> 50 p. 100.

That should be 15, not 50 per cent.

Then in the second column on page 18 in my answer to Mr. Tomson's question I am quoted as saying:

> ...and we have had a number of alien volunteers and still do.

That should read "Indian volunteers."

At the last Committee meeting the Company was asked to provide certain information. This was a list of consultant reports, the total amount paid to consultants for the development of an international program and a list of the consultants used in the development of projects with Indians. This information has been tabled with Miss Savard and I believe it will appear as an appendix to today's proceedings.

In addition we have tabled a list which is more detailed than the answer which was originally given to a question asked in the House of Commons concerning consultants, and this revised list simply gives additional detail about the work these consultants did and in what areas of the Company's activities it was done. The Committee also for information about the selection of Indian volunteers and for a policy statement on the Company's involvement in Indian communities.

• 1120

Perhaps I could just deal with that very briefly. These points were raised by Mr. Marchand at the last meeting. As far as the selection of Indian volunteers is concerned our policy is to have Indian volunteers working in Indian communities to as great an

extent as possible. At present there are several white volunteers who are working in Indian communities but the proportion of Indian volunteers in those projects is steadily increasing. The criteria we use to select Indian volunteers are exactly the same as those used to select white volunteers. These include an ability to communicate and work with the people in the community in which the volunteer will be living, a concern for the needs and aspirations of those people, a willingness to work for little material return and the abilities to assist people in reaching their goals without ordering or directing them. Of course, there are differences in the way these qualities are manifested. For instance, to be able to communicate effectively in many Indian communities it is necessary to speak an Indian language, but the essential qualities that we seek of Indian and white volunteers are the same.

As far as the question of the Company's policy regarding its work in Indian communities is concerned, we do not have an official policy which would distinguish our work in Indian communities from other work of the Company. There is no grand design for our work with Indians. Our objective is not one of integration, assimilation, separation, red power or any of the other doctrines usually defined by white people for the solution of Indian's problems. In all company projects our primary aim is to assist people in finding solutions to the problems which face them, as these problems are perceived by the people themselves. Every community is different, and generally Indian communities are different from white communities and have different problems.

The Company attempts to have its field workers understand the point of view of Indian people in their own communities so that the solutions towards which they are working will be acceptable to the local people as solutions which come from them, and are not imposed on them. Therefore the policy of the Company, as with other types of projects, is to have workers live among the Indian people in their own communities, share their experiences—including their difficulties—and then to assist the Indian people in working towards solutions which they themselves desire. Thus far the emphasis of our Indian projects has been on stimulating communication and contact among Indian groups and on helping Indian organizations to express their grievances and concerns. What other directions these projects may take in the future will depend on the Indian people themselves. That, Mr. Chairman, is all I wish to say at the opening of this session.

The Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Goodings. We will start with the previous list of members who asked to be heard at this meeting. Mr. Stewart?

Mr. Stewart (Marquette): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to direct a few questions to Mr. Goodings. I would like to say first of all that I think the whole principle of the Company of Young Canadians is good. It is good to see the youth of our country involved in activities.

One area of your program that particularly concerns me is your activities in Manitoba. Last year you rented a home for your volunteers in Winnipeg. I understand that certain difficulties arose: the landlord broke the lease, the home was left in a rundown condition and I believe a court case came out of this. Has this matter been cleaned up or where does it stand at this point?

Mr. Goodings: The matter has been entirely cleared up. The Company did have a project in Winnipeg which I think it decided to close down in the spring of this past year. Naturally we did not anticipate closing down the project when a lease was arranged for the house and there were some difficulties in cleaning it up, but it has been entirely cleared up now and there was no court case.

Mr. Stewart (Marquette): It has been settled to the landlords' satisfaction?

Mr. Goodings: Yes.

Mr. Stewart (Marquette): And an outside territorial service was brought in to clean it up. What did this cost the Company?

• 1125

Mr. Goodings: I do not have that information. I could provide it for you.

Mr. Stewart (Marquette): Yes, I would appreciate it if you would.

I have another item pertaining to your Manitoba operation. It was reported last February that $16,000 was paid out for salaries in four months by the Company for the

Manitoba operation, and this was broken down as staff $7,440 and volunteers $5,760. According to my calculations the staff salaries work out to an average of $620 per month for that four-month period. Does this not seem high?

Mr. Goodings: I really would not like to comment on those figures unless we have a chance to check them ourselves. I doubt they would be that high, but I would like to check them.

Mr. Stewart (Marquette): Could you supply us with the figures for your Manitoba operation?

Mr. Goodings: Yes.

Mr. Stewart (Marquette): After the mix-up which you had in Winnipeg your information director, Mr. Hamilton, said that the CYC would not make a special investigation into the Winnipeg operation. Do you not feel that after what happened in Manitoba, the fiasco that came about, there should have been a special investigation?

Mr. Goodings: I think that we do have a fair amount of information about what went wrong with that project and the reasons it became necessary to close it. I do not think there would be any need for some special investigation because I think we are fairly familiar with the situation there. The Council of the Company decided as a matter of policy that the Company should have a project in Winnipeg and we have been using the services of our consultant in Winnipeg to give us some rather specific suggestions about how a new project could be started in Winnipeg that would avoid some of the mistakes and difficulties that we had there before. I expect that a very specific project proposal will probably come into our Council for approval in January or February.

Mr. Stewart (Marquette): Could you give me the name of this consultant, please?

Mr. Goodings: Yes. Mr. Sydney McArton. He was the former Director of Welfare for the Province of Manitoba.

Mr. Stewart (Marquette): How long has he been working on his report?

Mr. Goodings: He has not been working full time on it. Over the last two months he has been working several days.

Mr. Stewart (Marquette): I have another question pertaining to Manitoba. You had a Mrs. Eleanor Hyodo at the Oak River Indian Reserve...

Mr. Goodings: Miss.

Mr. Stewart (Marquette): Should I say Miss, yes. I understand from all reports that she was doing a very good job, she was helping out the mothers and the pre-school children, and from any reports I have received she was obtaining very good results. This program was cut off. What was the reason for this, sir? I understand that was the only member you had in Manitoba working on a reserve. There are quite a few Indian reserves in Manitoba and this is where the Company could do some good.

Mr. Goodings: That is right. We considered that to be quite a successful project, and Miss Hyodo was doing some very valuable work on the reserve. We felt, however, that it was the kind of project that could and should be taken over by the Indian people themselves, the band council and the Indian organizations. It is my understanding that the essential elements of the program, the starting of tutorial classes—which is a kind of head start program—and working with the mothers has in fact been taken over and is continuing on the reserve.

In a way it relates to the question that we talked a little bit about last week, which is do you simply continue sending volunteers into one particular situation year after year after year or do you try to get something going and hope that there will be a community organization develop which can take on that work. This does not by any means rule out the possibility of the Company getting involved in other projects on the reserves but we try, at least, in all our projects to develop the local resources so that they can be taken over.

• 1130

Mr. Stewart (Marquette): I see. I have one final question, Mr. Chairman. Does Mr. Pelletier's statement pertain to the involvement of young people in a peacetime service to the nation that has been referred to as cultural conscription? Does this mean a phase-out of the Company of Young Canadians?

Mr. Goodings: Well, I think that is a question you had better ask Mr. Pelletier.

The Chairman: What was the statement, anyway? Do you have a copy of the statement?

Mr. Stewart (Marquette): No; I read the report in several different places, Mr. Chairman, but I wanted the opinion of the Company, whether they felt this might be a phase-out or whether there has been any discussion of this.

The Chairman: He answered you, I think. Mr. Perrault?

Mr. Perrault: I will pass just for the moment, Mr. Chairman. I am still writing some questions out. I would like to get back as soon as possible.

The Chairman: Mr. Allmand?

Mr. Allmand: Mr. Goodings, I think last year in Quebec there was a movement among the Company of Young Canadians to set up some quasi-separate organization under the name of "Compagnie des Jeunes Québécois". There was a bit of publicity about it at the time and since then we have not heard exactly what happened. Is the Quebec branch or Quebec operation of the Company of Young Canadians fully consolidated under the same operations as all other provinces, or is there some type of special organization, and also what happened to those within the company who were promoting the idea of the Compagnie des Jeunes Québécois?

Mr. Goodings: First of all, it is the Company of Young Canadians and it remains the Company of Young Canadians. There are no subgroups within it—Company of Young Quebecers or Company of Young Albertans—it is one organization. I think there was some misunderstanding over the use of that term last year when this issue came up, the term "Compagnie des Jeunes Québécois", but as far as we are concerned that is ancient history. It no longer pertains.

The operations of the Company in Quebec, the projects that we have there, come under the same responsibility and supervision as all of the Company projects, that is they are the responsibility of the executive director and the provisional council. The way we provide staff support to our projects does vary across the country. At the beginning of the Company's history we decided arbitrarily that there should be five regions in the country and that we would have regional offices, and that was the way this staff support should be provided to our project.

We found that was an overly rigid way of providing staff support and now we try to provide staff support in various parts of the country in the most appropriate way. In Quebec we have what we call "une équipe volante", a staff team which provides support and supervision to all the projects in Quebec. In other parts of the country staff support is provided in other ways. I hope that answers your question; there are no subgroups in the Company now.

Mr. Allmand: Can you inform us what percentage of your volunteers are bilingual. Is that possible?

Mr. Goodings: I think the only statement I can make now would be a guess, but I would be quite willing to get that information.

Mr. Allmand: My second question is, do you restrict applications from volunteers to Canadian citizens?

Mr. Goodings: No, no we do not. Our policy has been that people who have landed immigrant status in Canada are eligible to be selected as volunteers.

Mr. Allmand: Do you have any idea what percentage of your volunteers are non-Canadian?

• 1135

Mr. Goodings: As a rough guess, I would say a half dozen, but again I can get the precise figure for you.

Mr. Allmand: I ask that question because last year I met a group of ex-Company of Young Canadian people who came before another parliamentary Committee. Of the four, three were American still with American citizenship. I was rather surprised that of the four who had been in the Company of Young Canadians three were young American citizens. They were here as landed immigrants but I was just wondering whether this particular group was indicative of the Company generally.

Mr. Goodings: No; it is a Company of Young Canadians and I do not think they were members of the Company at the time they were before the Committee.

Mr. Allmand: No, they were not.

Mr. Goodings: I can get you the exact figures, but it certainly would not be three-quarters of the population.

Mr. Allmand: I will take your word for it. If it is a small percentage, all right. Is your training program for these volunteers centred in any one part of Canada, or is it decentralized? If a person makes application to serve as a volunteer with the Company, where is he sent for training? The first thing I would like to ask you is, who decides whether he will be accepted as a volunteer?

Mr. Goodings: Let us say you want to apply as a volunteer in the CYC...

Mr. Allmand: What is the age limit?

An. hon. Member: I do not think there is any age limit.

Mr. Goodings: No, there is no age limit. If a person decides to apply to the Company he writes us a letter. We will send back to him what we call our trainee application booklet which simply asks a number of questions about the person's background and experience. At that time we will also send the applicant a list of all the Company projects with a brief description of them and we ask the applicant to express his preference for the kind of work he wants to do.

Some people specifically would like to work in an Indian community; others would like to work in a big city with youth, and they express their preferences. Applications and preferences come to our Ottawa office where members of our program staff make what we call a paper selection. This simply allows us to rule out certain people who have clearly none of the required experience. For example, we have a number of applications from people who are 15 years old. We decided as a matter of practice not to accept anyone under the age of 18.

That kind of paper selection is done in Ottawa. Then we send the application forms and any information about the applicants, including references which we will have written for, to the projects that the applicants have expressed a preference for and then it is a decision for the projects themselves to invite the applicants to the project for what we call a provisional training period.

This is one-month provisional training period during which an applicant receives absolute minimum allowances and the staff member on the project has an opportunity to see whether that applicant is suited for the work on the project. It also gives the applicant a chance to see whether he is interested in that kind of work. If the decision is favourable at the end of that one month, the applicant will then become a trainee for a period of from one to two months and during that period he will undergo a training program that is directly related to the work and the needs of that particular project.

• 1140

At the beginning we held a number of central training programs but we found this did not provide the applicants with the kind of relevant training experience they needed for specific kinds of community problems and specific kinds of projects, and so the training takes place in that one-or two-month period. In-service training will take place throughout the two years. At the end of that one-or two-month training period there will be a decision of the project and of the executive director of the Company about whether that trainee will become a volunteer or not, and that is the way we now select and train volunteers for the CYC.

Mr. Allmand: What consideration do you give to the philosophical and political beliefs of the applicants? I ask this question because there were allegations at the beginning that those who did the selecting eliminated people who did not go along with their social or political philosophies. I do not know on what basis this was said. It was said that the selection committee was dominated by people who had been in SUPA and that if you did not conform rather closely to the general philosophy held by SUPA people you might just be considered to be not the proper person to be a member of the Company of Young Canadians. Do you give any consideration at all to political and philosophical beliefs?

Mr. Goodings: Not at all. The main criterion we use is whether the person is likely to be able to be effective as a volunteer on a project as has already been established by the Company. Our concern is not with people's political or philosophical beliefs but with their capacity to do community work, and we ascertain this through this training period and that question just does not arise; it does not arise at all.

Mr. Allmand: What are the regulations with respect to volunteers in the Company of Young Canadians? Are they allowed to belong

to political parties and participate in political campaigns?

Mr. Goodings: Yes our policy has been that just because people are volunteers in the CYC they should not be deprived of their rights as Canadian citizens. However....

Mr. Allmand: Does the Public Service Employment Act apply?

Mr. Goodings: No; however we have established the very clear principle that if a volunteer's outside interests, such as belonging to a political party or taking part in some kind of group not connected to the work of the Company, adversely affects his work in a community, then we will suggest to that volunteer that he leave.

We have had one or two examples of volunteers who have decided they want to run in elections and in those cases we followed the practice of the government and of the Public Service Commission, I believe that during that time they would be considered on leave of absence without pay. Obviously if they had been elected they would have left the Company.

Mr. Allmand: I have a final question, Mr. Chairman? How do you decide on a project? Do you have a group within the Company that is active in searching out potential projects, or do you contact people in municipal and provincial government or welfare agencies that are already established and ask them if they would have any suggestions for things you might do? Exactly how does a project become a project?

• 1145

Mr. Goodings: At the moment, of the projects which we have in operation most have a history of over a year or two and in that period of the Company's history we did actively go out and seek suggestions for projects from individuals, welfare organizations, government departments, and so on. At the moment, because of a budget situation, it is not much use on us to go out and try to find potentially new projects because we could not follow through.

The procedure, though, for a project being approved by the Company is that in most cases, either by invitation from a community group or because an existing CYC project thinks another project should be started somewhere else, we would send a staff person into that community to do some research, to compile information, to meet people in local groups to find out whether there is the opportunity and the possibility for a CYC project.

We would then have a reasonably detailed project proposal that would specify the kinds of roles volunteers would play and functions they would perform, and that project proposal would go to a committee of our council. That committee would decide whether or not we should begin a new project and its decision would be ratified by the governing body of the Company which, at the moment, is the Provisional Council.

Mr. Allmand: Thank you, very much.

The Chairman: Mr. Perrault?

Mr. Perrault: Mr. Chairman, I stated at an earlier meeting that I believe the Company does good work in a number of areas and that a statement appears in the transcript of our *Proceedings* of Friday, November 15. However, those of us concerned about the extension of a sound and useful program by the CYC want to be assured that the program is going to be well managed in the coming year and that better methods of control are established without inhibiting the initiative of the volunteers of that organization. It seems to some of us on this Committee that an excessive amount of money has been spent for executives' salaries, for consultant reports with rather indifferent performance in some areas.

I have one or two comments I would like to make about aspects of the program, but first of all I would like to bring to the attention of the Committee a report which appeared in the Vancouver *Province*, Ottawa Bureau. It was filed by the Ottawa Bureau on Saturday, November 16. It appeared in the Vancouver *Province*. The headline is "Perrault misinterpretation charged". I was at the United Nations in New York at the time and did not have an opportunity to reply to this charge. It is datelined Ottawa:

> The Company of Young Canadians claims a Vancouver area Liberal MP has "grossly" misinterpreted a consultant's report which tossed the CYC into another round of controversy Friday...Steward Goodings, the CYC's acting executive director, said: "I don't know how he...

That is, Perrault,

> ...could have read the report and come to the conclusion that the programs were designed to subvert governments.

Of course, the report referred to was the international program which had been developed for the CYC by Mr. Gerry Hunnius who is now studying in Washington, D.C. I asked a number of questions about that program, but nowhere in the transcript will any statement by me be found making specific charges against the Company of Young Canadians. I asked a number of questions but unfortunately, Mr. Chairman, they were not answered very satisfactorily.

The Chairman: I believe you are on a question of privilege.

Mr. Perrault: I am on a question of privilege and I want to make it a matter of privilege. There was no gross misinterpretation of the consultant's report. I read in the same transcript on page 13 a statement by Mr. Goodings:

> I have been with the Company for close to four years and I am the veteran of the organization.

• 1150

Then he steps outside of this Committee and accuses a member of gross misinterpretation when such a charge cannot be based in fact.

It seems to me that during his period of service Mr. Goodings has developed a penchant for overstatement which I do not think does much to enhance the reputation of the CYC. Now, after four years in a position of responsibility with this organization you say you do not know whether there are other reports relating to the international program. We have had some documents tabled here today which indicate that about $18,000 was expended in the matter of developing an international program. You said last week that my questions about the international program were irrelevant because you had no intention of proceeding with the program; yet this pamphlet, *The Company of Young Canadians*—and every member has a copy—states:

> We are young people, an organization run by young people, working now with people in small towns, big cities, Indian communities, fishing villages, the far north and soon in other countries.

The annual report of the Company of Young Canadians, a copy of which the members have received, also states that it is the intention to go into international programs. I do not want to dwell on this international program today, because obviously the CYC will not be in an international program during the coming months, but you told the Committee last week that the Hunnius report was only a consultant's report. I suggest to you, Mr. Goodings, that the report formed the basis for a proposal approved by the CYC executive for an international program and that the proposal was duly submitted by the CYC for approval and the questions I ask today are just as valid as they were at the last Committee meeting.

When we get into this international program, if in fact it is launched—and there is high hope held out for it in all of the documents that you have provided to the Committee members—what will be the objectives; what will be the criteria? Were the recommendations for your international program evolved after any consultation with Canadian agencies, governmental or non-governmental, with responsibilities and experience in this general area such as External Affairs?

I have read this report and I suggest that if any member thinks there has been gross misinterpretation of the Hunnius report about this planned international foray, then the CYC should make a copy available to every member of the Committee for study, and I think the members of all parties here are sufficiently responsible that they can study this report and draw their own conclusions.

Having read this report, it seems to me that you have been more concerned with the political needs than wth the economic and social needs as defined by the developing countries. There seems to be an overriding political orientation. The CYC seems intent on establishing programs on an extra governmental basis. You accuse me of gross misinterpretation. Let me quote from page 47 of the Hunnius report:

> They talk about going into the West Indies with a program. If the West Indies are selected, I suggest CYC should approach the government of Jamaica or that of another country and ask for their advice as to their needs. In other words, I would advise that we violate the rule which I recommend as a general,

> approach and bow to the political realities.

In other words, in the case of the West Indies we will go through the government but in the case of other jurisdictions we will not.

Now, I want to leave it by saying this, and it disturbs me because it suggests to me a degree of immaturity in the CYC which I hope will not extend to the domestic program. The proposals—certainly the international program—which were submitted for approval—and I reiterate that; they were not merely a consultant's report—portray a complete lack of understanding of the role of governments in foreign countries and of relations between governments as well as I think a colossal immaturity, and as a member of this Committee I hope that we are going to have more maturity on the part of the Company of Young Canadians in the domestic program which is really what we have under discussion.

Mr. Goodings: May I be permitted to comment on the question of privilege?

The Chairman: Mr. Perrault?

Mr. Perrault: Yes, I would permit a comment but I have some questions about the matter before us.

Mr. Goodings: First of all I would just like to indicate that I do not think it is terribly useful to engage in an argument with Mr. Perrault about a private consultant's document which was prepared for the Company. I would stand by my charge that you grossly misinterpreted that report. In the transcript...

Mr. Perrault: Are you prepared to make the report available to members of the Committee?

Mr. Goodings: Absolutely.

Mr. Perrault: Copies will be provided for all the members?

• 1155

Mr. Goodings: Yes.

Mr. Perrault: That is fine.

Mr. Goodings: In the transcript, you quoted three or four paragraphs from the report and concluded that the document was a very, very heavily political document.

Mr. Perrault: I said it had a political orientation, yes. It is in the transcript and I stand by that.

Mr. Goodings: And I think if we were to examine even the quotations to which you specifically refer, to say that the gap between the rich and the poor is great and in some cases widening I do not feel is a political statement. It is a statement of fact; it is an economic fact.

Mr. Perrault: My question to you at the last meeting and the question today is, what are the terms of reference; what are the objectives of the program? In other words, if the gap is widening in these nations what does the CYC intend to do about it? This is the question.

Mr. Goodings: I would like just to finish and to quote:

> ...the Western parliamentary system in its various variations does not today meet the demands of the technological age...

I would say that more members in the House of Commons today, including the Prime Minister of our country, have said more critical things about the parliamentary system than this report says.

Mr. Perrault: I come back to the main question. As a member of this Committee, I am interested in knowing what would be done by the CYC if funds were voted it by this Parliament to engage in an international program? We know that social abuses exist. I have made many speeches in the House of Commons about certain improvements which must be made but we are interested in how the money is going to be spent and this is the matter of concern.

Mr. Goodings: I thought I answered that at the last Committee meeting. I indicated that at the moment the Company has no plans for going overseas: that the decision about the timing, the content, and the objectives of an overseas program would be made by the governing body of the Company which is the Council. I think I have also indicated that the Company realizes in the beginning of any overseas work there would need to be full consultations in advance with the various departments of the government before any work was done on the international level.

I do not really think there is anything more I can say. The Council must make the deci-

sion to initiate an international program and then it would be the Company's understanding that complete discussions would be held with the government before going overseas. Mr. Hunnius' report was only one consultant's report out of five. I stated at the last Committee meeting that there were five reports prepared—

Mr. Perrault: There are four other reports, are there?

Mr. Goodings: That is right.

Mr. Perrault: Those will be made available to the Committee as well?

Mr. Goodings: If the Committee wishes. The names of the consultants and their reports were tabled today. If the Committee wishes I can have those reports...

The Chairman: That would mean five reports altogether. How many pages would that involve?

Mr. Goodings: I would far rather see all the reports tabled than using one report to try to discredit the entire program of the Company.

Mr. Perrault: Yes, but you are saying that someone is attempting to discredit the program. I have said that I think there are good features to the program. I have asked a number of legitimate questions based on letters I have received from my constituents and I insist on my right to continue to ask these questions without people suggesting that I am distorting the record or attempting to abuse the Company of Young Canadians in some fashion. I notice in the Annual Report the suggestion is...

Mr. Mather: Mr. Chairman, on a point of order.

The Chairman: Mr. Mather, on a point of order.

Mr. Mather: My understanding of this situation is that Mr. Perrault, on a question of privilege, was explaining or denying that he had taken a certain line of attack in regard to a report about the Company of Young Canadians. I thought he had more or less finished with his point of privilege and that Mr. Goodings had asked for the courtesy of making a reply to that. I think Mr. Goodings had hardly finished making his reply, which I think in fairness he should be allowed to make to Mr. Perrault's statements, when Mr. Perrault started to ask question.

• 1200

I do not think Mr. Perrault should be allowed to start questioning without the final point of the question of privilege having been reached. I would suggest that if Mr. Goodings is finished we should know that. If he is not, then he should continue his reply to Mr. Perrault on a question of privilege before we go on to questions.

The Chairman: I thought that the point of privilege raised by Mr. Perrault was over. He expressed his point and made it very clear. I think we should now resume the regular question period. Now that he has made his point clear he may carry on asking questions.

Mr. Laniel: Mr. Chairman, Mr. Goodings asked to reply. I do not think he has completed his reply.

The Chairman: Have you completed your reply, Mr. Goodings?

Mr. Goodings: I think I have completed my reply.

The Chairman: The incident is over. Mr. Perrault, do you have any other questions?

Mr. Stewart (Marquette): May I ask a supplementary question, Mr. Chairman?

The Chairman: Yes, Mr. Stewart.

Mr. Stewart (Marquette): I would like to direct this question to Mr. Perrault. It has never been established—and it has been asked in the House of Commons—how you obtained a copy of this report before the last meeting.

Mr. Perrault: The report is not a confidential document. This is not a relevant question.

The Chairman: It has no bearing, gentlemen, because we will all have the report. We will have the five documents.

Mr. Stewart (Marquette): Mr. Chairman, why was it not made available?

The Chairman: Starting at this point you may ask questions about the report that will be deposited by the Company of Young Canadians. Is it the pleasure of the Committee that these five documents be tabled?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Mr. Perrault: I want to reassure the Committee that the report was not made to me through any official channels. It came to me in a brown envelope from somewhere.

The Chairman: Are there any other questions?

Mr. Stewart (Marquette): Did Mr. Perrault get many of those envelopes?

The Chairman: Order, please.

Mr. Perrault: Mr. Chairman, a member also gets information from various constitutents.

The Chairman: Do you have any other questions, Mr. Perrault?

Mr. Perrault: The suggestion has been made that there is going to be an improvement in the method of recruiting volunteers for the Company of Young Canadians. I think it is encouraging to hear that. I have here an article from the August 1967 issue of *Maclean's* magazine, and it deals rather extensively with the Company of Young Canadians.

> The CYC's role is much tougher. Company volunteers see themselves as catalysts in a process of social change.

I wonder if Mr. Goodings can tell us whether there have been any changes in the past few months with respect to the rating of possible recruits and volunteers for the Company. What kind of process do they go through now?

Mr. Goodings: Before I answer, was what you read a quotation from the journalist who wrote that?

Mr. Perrault: It was a quotation from the article. It suggests that the CYC is seeking much tougher company volunteers, so obviously the recruitment standards are being raised.

The Chairman: What was the date of that publication?

Mr. Perrault: August of 1967.

Mr. Goodings: I think it is perfectly correct that the Company now uses tougher selection procedures and criteria than it did a year ago, and much tougher than it used two years ago. I am not so sure that I would personally subscribe to the idea that we want—I am not quite sure of the term that was used—tougher social catalysts or whatever was used, but we are definitely . . .

Mr. Perrault: I will repeat it. It says:

> The CYC's role is much tougher. Company volunteers see themselves as catalysts in a process of social change.

• 1205

Mr. Goodings: Right. We want to have volunteers who have had more experience in actually working at the community level. I do not think it is spilling any secrets to say that at the beginning of the Company we had a number of people who were able to talk very effectively about community work and community service, but when it came to putting them in the field and doing things they were not all that effective. I think you will note from the selection procedure that I outlined that emphasis is now on finding the kind of volunteers who can function effectively in the community, and that this training period really gives us a chance to find out whether people can do that. Our volunteers are now older, better educated and more experienced than they have ever been before.

Mr. Perrault: This article also refers to a CYC volunteer by the name of Mr. Lynn Curtis from Victoria. It says:

> Curtis, who started his project without Ottawa authorization but still collects his $35 monthly stipend, has succeeded in sparking. . .

this is in Victoria:

> . . .several hundred drifting hippies into organizing themselves into something approaching a self-supporting commune. They've set up co-op residences, an income-generating psychedelic shop—and reaped lots of unfavorable publicity. As love propaganda, Curtis sends flowers to Victoria's chief of police every week.

The Chairman: Mr. Perrault, you should not believe all that you read there. I do not think it is very fair to the witness!

Mr. Perrault: Mr. Chairman, I simply want to ask the question.

The Chairman: Please ask your question.

Mr. Perrault: We are now in good humour in the Committee, but I simply want to ask if Mr. Curtis is still receiving his monthly stipend and if that kind of activity is still going

on in Victoria. This has been under attack in Victoria—which is in my home province—and I am asking the question for...

Mr. Goodings: No, Mr. Curtis is no longer a volunteer with the Company. I believe he left the Company almost a year ago. Perhaps it was closer to last spring. He no longer receives any money from the Company. Whether he still sends flowers to the Chief of Police in Victoria, I do not know.

The Chairman: He might get his money from other sources which you do not know about. Do you have further questions, Mr. Perrault?

Mr. Perrault: Well, there ..

The Chairman: Do you have a supplementary, Mr. Robinson?

Mr. Robinson: Yes. Was he asked to leave or did he leave voluntarily?

Mr. Goodings: As I recall, he left our Victoria project to spend the last six months of his contract on another of the Company's projects in Vancouver, and then he left the Company at the end of his normal two years of service.

Mr. Robinson: So he really was not asked to leave the Company of Young Canadians?

Mr. Goodings: No.

Mr. Robinson: And he served out his full term of two years?

Mr. Goodings: That is correct.

Mr. Robinson: Do you have any situations where they are reappointed after serving out their period?

Mr. Goodings: Not yet. We have had a number of volunteers whose contracts have been extended for up to six months to help them leave a community with as little bad effects as possible.

The Chairman: Are you finished, Mr. Perrault? I do not think we should have any more supplementaries until the other questioners have had a chance.

Mr. Perrault: This is my final question, Mr. Chairman. I would like to come back later but I want to give the other members of the Committee a chance. In the past six months have improvements in budgetary techniques been introduced? I notice in the analysis of the CYC finances by a firm of chartered accountants that they seem to hedge their approval with some implied criticism of the way things have been handled in the past.

Mr. Goodings: Yes, they do.

Mr. Perrault: They do?

Mr. Goodings: Oh, yes.

The Chairman: They qualify it.

Mr. Goodings: Oh, yes.

Mr. Perrault: But are you satisfied that there is perhaps better budget control now than we have had in the past couple of years?

Mr. Goodings: Yes. The firm of auditors which helped us very considerably over the last year made a number of recommendations which have been carried out. I think we now have very adequate and tight control over all our expenditures. I believe we have an administrative staff of which we can be extremely proud. If members have specific questions about budgeting or control of expenditures, I think Mr. Brown could probably provide you with additional information. However, I think I can assure the Committee that the Company is administratively and financially very sound and I think this will be very clearly reflected in next year's financial statements.

Mr. Perrault: Mr. Chairman, I think we are all encouraged to hear that because we want this organization to work.

The Chairman: In the certificate they say that the Provisional Council of the Company has been kept informed of the developments and has indicated their determination to bring financial control to full and efficient levels. That is what we want, at any rate. Thank you, Mr. Perrault. Mr. Schumacher?

Mr. Schumacher: Mr. Chairman, I think many of us have been concerned about the material of some of the questioning in the Committee so far, and I think it would be unfortunate if these hearings degenerated into a witch-hunt for a publicity stunt.

I would like to direct my first question to the aims of the Company. I wonder if Mr. Goodings could say whether there is any equality between these two things, or perhaps there is some other balance. Does the Council consider the Company to be an agency of social change or an agency for the develop-

ment of youth which may result in social change? Is there any bias in that regard?

• 1210

Mr. Goodings: This is a question that has preoccupied the Company from the very beginning. Some people feel that the biggest long-term consequence or result of the Company's activity will be the fact that it will have provided a number of young Canadians with the chance to serve, to learn, to grow and to become better citizens. I think that is probably a matter which the historians will decide in 15 or 20 years time. I very much believe that that is the consequence of the Company. The more young people who can work in voluntary service, either through the CYC or through all the other kinds of organizations that exist, so much the better. However, we have taken the view that the primary objective of the Company should be on the work that they do, the changes that they can help to stimulate and their actual achievements and accomplishments in a community, and if we were to allow ourselves to see as the most important purpose of the Company simply giving young people an experience, I think this would be the wrong kind of emphasis. This definitely does occur but there are also things which are very complimentary.

The Chairman: Mr. Schumacher, do you mind if I refer you to this small pamphlet. It explains the challenge from their point of view, and I think it is very clear. It deals with social changes, and so on, and it will give you quite a good indication of their viewpoint.

Mr. Schumacher: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Goodings, I would like to ask you about the operation of the recruiting program. Has there been a real recruiting program or have you relied on volunteers getting in touch with you first? Have there been any advertising campaigns, or anything of that nature?

Mr. Goodings: In the main over the last 18 months we have relied on people contacting us, and these applications come in at the rate of about 40 a month. We find that that method is adequate to fill the fairly limited number of openings that we have. We have not had an extensive advertising campaign partly for that reason and partly because we did not feel that we should have one. Last year we made four public service television films which were shown on private television and the CBC as public service spots. They were not so much recruiting tools as information tools. Mind you, we got a lot of letters from people who said, "We saw your ad on TV and we would like to apply", but we do not have any advertising campaign as such.

Mr. Schumacher: Does the Company recognize that it could be missing a large number of young Canadians who are sincerely interested in effecting social change that could improve the quality of life that it is not reaching now?

Mr. Goodings: Yes, we are very much aware of that. I hate to raise such a topic before a parliamentary committee but money is one very important aspect of that. The Company simply does not have the funds to provide service opportunities for the numbers of people who even now want to serve in the Company, and certainly not enough to supply openings for the numbers of Canadians who we believe would like to serve in the Company.

Mr. Schumacher: I would like to ask a question, Mr. Chairman, about the Provisional Council. I am wondering whether Mr. Goodings could tell us how that Council was appointed, if he has any knowledge of that?

Mr. Goodings: The Provisional Council members were appointed by the government.

Mr. Schumacher: The Governor in Council?

Mr. Goodings: Yes, by Governor in Council. Five members of the present Provisional Council were elected by the volunteers in the field, but their appointment was subsequently made by the Governor in Council. Since the Company was still operating with a Provisional Council, the government had to make that appointment, but five of the present members were in practice elected by the volunteers.

Mr. Schumacher: Is there some reason why this Provisional Council has not been made a permanent body yet? Is the Company still on a temporary basis?

Mr. Goodings: None of us who work for the Company feel that the Company is on a temporary basis or an impermanent basis. The decision to move from a Provisional Council to a permanent council as outlined in the Act is a decision for the Provisional Council and the government to make. The Act provides for the election of a permanent council, and

the rules and the procedures for moving to this permanent council must be established by the Provisional Council and then approved by the Governor in Council.

Mr. Allmand: A supplementary question, Mr. Chairman. Which five were elected by the volunteers?

Mr. Goodings: If I could refer you to the *CYC Review*, page 12 of the English version, the members of the Council who were first elected by the volunteers are Andre Baril, Dal Brodhead, Maurice Cloutier, Stan Daniels and Roberts Davis. You will see that of that five, four are themselves volunteers, even though in the Act it provides that anyone can be eligible for election to the Council. The volunteers are the constituents, but they do not have to elect fellow volunteers.

The Chairman: Mr. Schumacher.

Mr. Schumacher: Mr. Chairman, I wonder if Mr. Goodings feels that the Company would be more effective if this Council was now made a permanent council, or does it matter?

Mr. Goodings: I do not think that that is a matter that I, as a member of the staff, should comment on.

Mr. Schumacher: Were there any objections received from any source that you know as a result of the appointment of any of the members to the Provisional Council?

Mr. Goodings: I do not believe so.

Mr. Schumacher: Have there been any resignations since the establishment of the original Provisional Council?

Mr. Goodings: Yes, there have been. If you wanted the exact names, I would have to locate them and provide them for you.

Mr. Shumacher: Would you be able to tell us the reason for those resignations?

Mr. Goodings: I do not think I could do that. You would probably have to ask the people themselves who resigned.

Mr. Schumacher: In his questioning, Mr. Allmand referred to the methods of choosing projects employed by the Provisional Council. I wonder if I could ask a question supplementary to that. Does the Council actually do any initiation at all in regard to the establishment of projects? Does it suggest perhaps to the staff that they look into a certain area of work in a certain geographical area of the country?

Mr. Goodings: No, not so far. The practice has been that proposals of that kind come to the Provisional Council from the staff or from the volunteers. I think that when the Company has a permanent council of which ten members have been elected by the volunteers themselves and, one could anticipate, would either be volunteers or community people themselves, that suggestions for projects probably would come directly into the Council at that point.

Mr. Schumacher: About the Minister's speech in relation to cultural conscripts or youth conscripts, was the Company consulted at all by the Minister in regard to this question before the making of this speech?

• 1220

Mr. Goodings: No, but we do not expect to be consulted about statements that Ministers make.

Mr. Schumacher: I was wondering whether...

The Chairman: I do not believe that is a fair question for the witness.

Mr. Shumacher: Well, he should know whether the Company was...

The Chairman: Maybe it was a political affair, and he is not an expert on politics.

Mr. Schumacher: Well, is that not what all of this is?

Mr. Goodings: If I may express my personal views, I have ...

The Chairman: They will not be off the record if you express them; they will be in the record.

Mr. Goodings: I understand that, Mr. Chairman.

The Chairman: That is fine.

Mr. Goodings: I simply wanted to say that for some years now I have been making speeches, as have other people, about the need for more opportunities for voluntary service for young people. The Company of Young Canadians has a couple of hundred people in it; CUSO has 400 or 500; the Alberta Service Corps has 40 or 50; and a number of other organizations have small numbers of

young people involved. I personally believe very strongly that it is an area where Canada could move ahead in the world, in the field of voluntary service.

I personally would not be in favour of any program which would compel people to serve as volunteers, because I think that is inimical to young people and to the Canadian tradition. But I very much believe that more opportunity should be provided for young people voluntarily to serve. I think the Company is making a small contribution to that.

Mr. Schumacher: Has the Company been consulted by the government in regard to any other possible youth programs that the government might be contemplating in the future, or do you feel that the government has been holding the Company at arm's length recently?

Mr. Goodings: This is really tricky ground. As a newcomer to this area it is very difficult for me to answer questions like that. I can say that the Company has spoken to the Minister on a number of occasions in the past few months about our work and about possible other areas of youth activity. I do not think that I should really say any more than that.

Mr. Schumacher: Do you have any evidence that perhaps the government is reviewing the position of the Company of Young Canadians as it is reviewing its position with regard to other programs?

Mr. Goodings: I think that is a question that should be directed to Mr. Pelletier.

Mr. Schumacher: You do not have any evidence yourself?

The Chairman: Mr. Laniel.

[*Interpretation*]

Mr. Laniel: Has the minister asked the Company of Young Canadians to prepare some kind of document which would project your activities on a long term basis, while taking into account your powers and objectives? Everybody is asking what is happening to the CYC. You are doing a fairly good job although it is often put in doubt.

Some people would like to see the CYC better understood, and would like to know if after 4 years or two years of activity, if it is analyzing its own position, is looking at what has been done in the past. Is it in a position, in the light of studies made by experts, to project future orientation or direction?

[*English*]

Mr. Goodings: We have prepared our program priorities for the next 18 months, which really simply covers our activity for the rest of this fiscal year and for the next fiscal year. I believe that Treasury Board has requested from us some kind of long-term prediction extending over the next few years as to what our requirements for growth are likely to be. We are working on that.

• 1225

I think this is part of the whole program of the federal government to plan ahead and predict expenditures over a longer period of time. We have not prepared anything specifically for our Minister yet about Company programs over the next four or five years.

The Chairman: Mr. Robinson.

Mr. Robinson: Has the Company of Young Canadians made any specific recommendations to the Minister with regard to its operations?

Mr. Goodings: I am not really sure that I understand your question, sir.

Mr. Robinson: Well, I am assuming that over a period of four years you have learned something, and I am wondering to what extent you have imparted this knowledge, or this learning experience, to the Minister, and as a result of this have you come up with any specific recommendations?

Mr. Goodings: Well, I think perhaps a simple answer is yes and no.

Mr. Robinson: Which means absolutely nothing.

Mr. Goodings: Well, yes and no. If you are referring to experience that we have learned in specific problem areas of Canadian life, poverty, Indians, and so on, we have tried to implement that experience and knowledge in our program as it develops and changes. I would expect that as the Company grows there will be an attempt to make some of this experience available to our own Minister and to other government departments who are interested.

As an example, in the House of Commons in mid-October, the Minister of National Health and Welfare made a statement about

the establishment of a secretariat in his Department to be concerned with the problem of drug abuse. The Company is very much concerned about this problem among young people, and has had some projects which have worked in this area. I have written to the Minister offering the co-operation and support of the Company in finding some constructive solutions to this problem. I see this as an example of the kind of assistance and help that the Company can make to other government departments as a result of our work. I hope that is related to your question.

The Chairman: Mr. Laniel?

Mr. Laniel: A previous question was asked as to whether you were projecting into specific fields that you had not covered. If we look at some of your projects, many seem to be temporary.

In your pamphlet, we notice that in Sorel, for instance, some of your volunteers have...

The Chairman: What page, Mr. Laniel?

Mr. Laniel: On several pages. The volunteers go among certain groups of young people who work. They follow retraining courses or assist in organizing the complaints of young workers out on strike. I understand that, but these things have to start ending at some time or other.

Another question. When you help young people group together, to put grievances forward to the government to obtain better retraining courses that are better adapted to their needs, do you follow up the situation or do you abandon these young people and turn to something else?

[*English*]

Mr. Goodings: We try to follow up those situations as much as we can. That particular project is a reasonably new one. The Company has been there only about six months, so it certainly would not yet have reached the stage where the Company would consider leaving that project. But even with the projects that run for a full two years, we do try to follow up and try to make sure that the work the Company has been involved in does have some continuation even if our own volunteers are not involved.

• 1230

Mr. Laniel: Do you do your work in secret or do you try to inform the community? I am looking at your book at page 20 and I see that you have a project at Granby-St. Hyacinthe-Valleyfield. If I had not seen your book I would not have heard about it. I am not a young man and I probably will not have the solutions you may be seeking, but still promotion is also a good thing and I wonder if within the community you do not dare to play with politicians, if you dare to take advantage of platforms that are available to you as community clubs or social clubs?

Mr. Goodings: Certainly, having looked at the front page of the newspapers for three years, I am only too conscious of the fact that we do not work in secret. When we begin a project...

Mr. Laniel: Your good mark; I am not talking about...

Mr. Goodings: Often no one writes about the good projects and no one remembers the good stories that are written about the good projects, but when we start a project in an area we do try to make contact with community groups and we try to make our presence known. However, one of the problems here is that the Company of Young Canadians is a very vulnerable public organization and there is a very great danger in many of the communities where we work that if attention is drawn to the CYC and to the volunteers and staff of the CYC, the Company becomes the issue in a community.

The newspapers and the people in a community get more concerned about what the volunteers are wearing or what kind of ideals they have, and they do not focus on the actual problems that the volunteers are trying to cope with. I think this is just one of the facts of life that the Company will have to live with, but my point is that sometimes publicity for the work of the Company of Young Canadians does not help the people that we are trying to help.

Mr. Laniel: Would the Company of Young Canadians have any objection to an organized visit of parliamentarians to the field to meet your workers on one or two specific projects? Would that have a bad effect on a project? It is a question of trying to find out exactly what you are doing and get the feeling of it.

Mr. Goodings: I would be absolutely delighted to have members of Parliament visit our projects and as many as they are able to visit. I do not think it would be very useful to have a group of MPs en bloc go to a project.

Mr. Laniel: I am thinking of this Committee perhaps becoming more learned. Without telling us which ones now, are there one or two projects, even widely separated, that you suggest we could visit?

Mr. Goodings: I would be very pleased if this Committee or members of this Committee wanted to visit some of our projects and I could begin arranging it this afternoon.

Mr. Laniel: As far as I am concerned, we are a Committee and we can make representations to the Minister. I know you do not want to take it out of your budget, but perhaps we could get support from the House of Commons. I think that is where it should come from and I make this suggestion, Mr. Chairman.

The Chairman: Yes, it is a good idea. I suppose you have many projects so I will see the Minister and see what can be done about our travelling to one or two projects to examine them.

I still have six speakers. We have the choice of carrying on with the six speakers or beginning another sitting next week if we can get a room. Mr. Alkenbrack, is your question a short one?

Mr. Alkenbrack: Yes, thank you, Mr. Chairman.

• 1235

Mr. Allmand: I have a supplementary, Mr. Chairman.

The Chairman: I am sorry, Mr. Allmand.

Mr. Allmand: I just want to ask whether we can visit the projects in our own cities by ourselves. You have two in Montreal. Is there anything to stop my contacting the leaders of those projects and visiting and talking with them?

Mr. Goodings: Not at all and, in fact, if you want to do that I suggest you talk to Claude Larivière who is a member of our Quebec staff after this meeting to arrange it.

About a year ago, I believe, the Company wrote to every member of Parliament—this was the old Parliament—and specifically invited members to visit projects in their areas and a number of MPs accepted this invitation. The invitation still stands.

Mr. Laniel: I still believe that a group visit would have a better effect because it will air some of the problems and also let the people know more about your activities and efforts. I think we should look into the possibility of making such a gesture.

The Chairman: Mr. Alkenbrack?

Mr. Alkenbrack: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I just want to congratulate the Company on its motives, social goals, ideals and whatever it has accomplished. The last reiteration concerning contact with Parliament is, I think, a splendid idea. You need to improve your parliamentary image. In other words, we are not well enough informed, generally speaking, about your activities. For example, there is one Indian reservation in my riding of Frontenac-Lennox and Addington. I live in the southern end of the riding. That Indian reservation is the Golden Lake Reserve, not far out of the capital. I do not know whether or not you have ever done any work there. Have you?

Mr. Goodings: No, sir.

Mr. Alkenbrack: I believe there is need. Will you just make a memo of that, Mr. Goodings, and impart that to your executive?

I have a couple of other brief questions. Have any of the volunteers of the Company of Young Canadians been American citizens who were fugitives from their military duties, the so-called draft dodgers?

Mr. Goodings: We do not ask those questions, Mr. Alkenbrack. So far as we are concerned, if a person applies to the Company and is a Canadian citizen, a Canadian resident or a landed immigrant, he is eligible to be a volunteer in the Company.

Mr. Alkenbrack: Then, to your knowledge have any of your volunteers who are Canadian citizens or landed immigrants assisted any American draft dodgers to come to Canada to be established here?

Mr. Goodings: To my knowledge none have assisted young Americans to come to Canada, but it is entirely possible that people who feel concerned about that particular problem as private citizens have assisted by donations or by writing letters.

Mr. Alkenbrack: There is quite a bit of objection—in trying to read public opinion, and after all public opinion is the taxpayers' opinion, the people who foot the bill for all our ramifications whatever they may be—to the outside influences that have from time to

time blurred the image of the Company, and one of these recently has been the report of the considerable expenditure for consultants.

This question has been asked before but I want to be satisfied, if you can tell me, about why so much money is required for consultants. Would it not be better to have the workers better trained, as you say, better screened and better acquainted with the regional or local problems and by so doing dispense with the need for consultants?

You are a group of amateur volunteers. That is all right; we approve; you have our blessing—you have mine, anyway—but we do object to consultants that beyond a doubt are professionals. Do you see your way clear to discontinuing this outlay for professional consultants?

• 1240

Mr. Goodings: First of all, the figure of $489,000 has been fairly widely noted as the figure spent in the last fiscal year on professional and special services. About $275,000 of that was spent for people defined as consultants.

Mr. Alkenbrack: That is a tremendous percentage.

Mr. Goodings: I think one of the problems is the public's general understanding of what a consultant is, and I am not saying this is the public's fault. I think probably it is as much the Company's fault as anyone else's for not making these things clear. The revised list of consultants tabled today, I think, does make clear that the money spent in that area was spent in a number of areas not usually considered to be high-priced professional help, and I hope everyone will have a chance to look at it.

Beyond that I do want to emphasize that at the beginning of our organization we did attempt to locate a variety of people who had experience in and knowledge of the kind of problems the Company was working on. How do you train young volunteers in this kind of work? How do you select them? How do you provide adequate support to them when they are working at something that no one really knows very much about? All those problems are difficult and we try to use consultants to help us get that knowledge and expertise.

In the current fiscal year the Company budgeted $150,000 for professional and special services and our present budget projections indicate that probably we will be spending less than that this year. The prediction for the next fiscal year is that we will lower that figure to less than $100,000 so I think that point has to be considered in the context of a better use of consultant services.

You are right that in the opinion of many people volunteers are amateurs, but we have been trying as hard as we can to make volunteers more competent, more able to do their work and, therefore, we do think there is a role for professional people or for people with experience and knowledge in an area to try to impart that knowledge and information to the volunteers. I would far rather be criticized for trying to get that information and knowledge to volunteers than to be criticized for having inexperienced, incompetent volunteers.

Mr. Alkenbrack: Yes, but rate of pay you give your professional consultants is far above that which you receive, I dare say. I object to that. A lot of it results from opportunism on the part of the consultants.

I have a last question. Concerning the ambitions of the Company to branch out to other countries, do you not think the burden of Canadians in Canada is enough for at least the next ten years with our responsibilities concerning poverty, drug abuse and alcoholism? Alcoholism is another thing that has not been mentioned here this morning; there is a field for you alone, as well as illiteracy, lack of culture. Do you not think those responsibilities are enough, that our burdens are enough without taking on any international responsibilities?

Mr. Goodings: I respect your opinion but any comments I could make in that area would be simply my personal opinion and would not reflect the policy of the Company. I think I made quite clear the policy of the Company with respect to the starting of an overseas program, but this is a decision for the Council and for the Government to make, and I do not think that I can really say anything on that.

Mr. Alkenbrack: Last question, Mr. Chairman. This is with regard to the personal interests of the members of the Company. Do you collect Unemployment Insurance or Canada Pension Plan for your volunteer workers?

The Chairman: Maybe Mr. Brown could answer that.

Mr. Brown: We have a ruling from the Unemployment Insurance Commission, and also it is defined in the Act, that the volunteers are not employees of the Company and therefore they are not subject to Unemployment Insurance. They do however pay into the Canada Pension Plan.

• 1245

The Chairman: They also pay into the provincial pension plan in Quebec.

Mr. Brown: And the Quebec Pension Plan.

Mr. Alkenbrack: I submit, Mr. Chairman, that they should be participating in both.

The Chairman: They are not participating in Unemployment Insurance.

Mr. Alkenbrack: Well, they should be.

The Chairman: How did you get that exemption, Mr. Brown? Is that a request from the Company of Young Canadians, or is it the Unemployment Insurance who stated that you do not qualify?

Mr. Brown: We asked the Unemployment Isurance Commission, the Income Tax Department, and the Canada Pension Plan people for rulings on the volunteers, whether they were subject to these various deductions. The federal Income Tax Department said yes they are subject. The Canada Pension Plan people said yes they are subject. The Unemployment Insurance Commission said no, they are not employees and therefore not subject.

The Chairman: That is probably a definition in the Unemployment Insurance Act.

Thank you very much gentlemen and witnesses. Next time the speakers will be Messrs. Penner, Robinson, Durante, Rodrigue and Perrault. We adjourn to the call fo the Chair and Vote 48 is allowed to stand.

APPENDIX C

CONSULTANTS' REPORTS

Wilf Allen—Report on Halifax Projects

Colleen Ashworth—Report on Recruitment in Maritimes

Hubert Beaudry—Report on Relationship of Proposed CYC International Programme and Domestic Programme

Nicole Béliveau—Report on CYC participation at Youth Pavilion, EXPO

Ernie Benedict—"The North American Indian Travelling College"— a proposal

Berger, Tisdall, Clark and Lesly Ltd.—A public relations programme for the CYC (in association with Gilles Desroches et Associés)

Jackie Briscoe—Report on Training for Winnipeg Project

Harold Cardinal—Research paper on Potential Projects with Indian Youth

C. Cromarty—Report: Winnipeg Indian Youth Project

William Curry—Comments on the Proposal for CYC's International Programme

Gilles Desroches et Associés—A public relations programme for the CYC (in association with Berger, Tisdall, Clark and Lesly Ltd.)

Alain Even—Les Blocages sociologiques au développement économique social dans le Nord Est du Nouveau-Brunswick

Phil Fontaine—Report on Indian Programme (Fort Alexander Reserve)

P. Galipeau—Rapport sur les provinces maritimes

Harold Harper—Report: Winnipeg Indian Youth Project

Y. Husereau—Rapport de Recherches sur le Peace Corps

G. Hunnius—Report on the Development of an International Programme for the CYC

Anthony Hyde—Notes on the Economy of Metropolitan Toronto

P. Jauvin—Report on Potential Project for Montreal

A. J. Karch—Report on Lanark County Project

Fred Kelly—Report on Northwestern Ontario Indians

Adèle Lauzon—Proposal: Centre for International Development

Anne Légaré—Report on Research Needs in Quebec

Dennis Lee and John Mackenzie—Reports on Rochdale College

Arthur Pape—Research Development Project for the CYC (with A. Hyde and M. Rowan) —An introduction to Municipal Government Institutions and Financial Practices in Metropolitan Toronto

Liora Procto—Report on Community Radio and Use of Tapes

Marjaleena Repo-Davis—Report on Urban Community Organizing

Morency Rioux—Organisations internationales

Mike Rowan—The Population of Toronto—Report on Demography

Matt Schoenfeld—Analysis of the report of the Advisory Committee on the Development of Government in the Northwest Territories

John Seeley—Immigration Population in Toronto

Linda Seese—Report on the Labour Force

Heather Sim—Notes on the Economy of Metropolitan Toronto (with Henry Sobotka)

R. W. Wallace—Report on Operation Achievement

John Young—Report and Proposal—Dalhousie Civil Liberties Club

APPENDIX D

PROGRAMME CONSULTANTS FOR INDIAN PROJECTS

H. Adams, consultant in project development, Prince Albert Project, Saskatchewan

D. Rodnick, Lubock, Texas, consultant in training workshop on poverty, Fort Qu'Appelle, Saskatchewan

Farrell Toombs, anthropologist, Toronto, consultant in Indian training programme, Toronto

M. Noganosh, Rama Reserve, community development officer, resource person—training, Northwestern Ontario Project

C. Fisher, Port Arthur, community development officer, consultant in training programmes, Northwestern Ontario

Dolores Nanie, Winnipeg, consultant for Winnipeg Indian Youth Project

Ernie Benedict, Cornwall, consultant in project development, North American Indian Travelling College

Stan Daniels, Edmonton, consultant to Lesser Slave Lake Project

Mrs. M. Gossen, sociologist and psychologist, University of Saskatchewan, training and project development consultant, Fort Qu'Appelle, Saskatchewan

Denis Goulet, Bloomington, Indiana, training workshop consultant, Fort Qu'Appelle Project, Sask.

R. Henney, Indianapolis, training consultant in Basic Education, Fort Qu'Appelle, Sask.

William Hesketh, Vernon, John Howard Society, Consultant to Penticton, B. C. Project

Fred Kelly, Kenora, community development consultant to Northwestern Project

Hector King, Armstrong, community development consultant to Northwestern Ontario Project in Armstrong, Ontario

Stanley King, consultant for Indian programmes in Northwestern Ontario Project

Liora Proctor, Toronto, radio and media consultant to Northwestern Ontario Project

Phil Fontaine, Ottawa, project development consultant re: Fort Alexander Reserve

Wilf Pelletier, Toronto, consultant for Indian Programmes

John Ferguson, Regina, project consultant, Fort Qu'Appelle, Saskatchewan Project

Gerald Gambill, Cornwall, consultant for Indian projects

Harold Sault, Port Arthur, project development consultant for Northwestern Ontario Project

Harold Harper, Winnipeg, consultant for summer training programme for Indians

Canadian Indian Youth Council: Harold Cardinal, Indian programme consultant

APPENDIX E

Secretaries and Part Time Help	Fees	Expenses
William Carruthers, (Part-time office help), Toronto	120.00	—
Dianne Carver, Secretary, Ottawa	1,080.00	—
Mike Cassidy (Part time office help, Toronto Office	240.00	—
Fields Key Personnel, Montreal (secretarial assistance)	212.50	—
Bernie Gilmore, Ottawa (part-time help)	329.54	—
Lise Henault, Secretary, Montreal Office	300.00	65.19
Joan Krause, Conference Secretary (CYC Prairies Regional Meeting)	100.00	—
G. Lorquet, Secretary, Montreal Office	900.00	—
Bonnie McCrae, Secretary, Programmes Section, Ottawa Office	456.00	86.65
M. Morton, Secretary, Toronto Office	892.50	—
Lise Perrier, Secretary, Recruitment & Selection, Ottawa Office	150.00	—
Silvia Smith, Secretary, Toronto Office		1.37
Nicole Tremblay, Secretary, Ottawa Office	2,262.18	—
Henrietta Varrin, Secretary, Toronto	1,300.00	28.00
Total	$8,342.72	$ 181.21

Trainees	Fees	Expenses
Jules Auger, Faust, Alberta	$ 280.00	$ —
Rose Auger, Faust, Alberta	370.00	—
Charles Barber, Victoria, B.C.	—	240.00
Millie Barrett	452.38	—
Austin Bear, Faust, Alberta	500.00	—
Dal Brodhead, Alert Bay, B.C.	—	306.00
Lucile Bruyère, Northwestern Ontario	100.00	141.85
S. Bruyère, Northwestern Ontario	—	13.34
Gunnar Carlson, For Qu'Appelle, Sask.	—	38.05
Pierre Cléroux, Montreal	346.35	—
Charles Comber, Northwestern Ontario	100.00	161.69
Willie Courtorielle, Faust, Alberta	500.00	—
Ian Crawford, Vancouver, B.C.	256.66	257.00
Dennis Cromarty Northwestern Ontario	100.00	141.85
Marc de Haas, Calgary	200.00	—
Graham Deline, Ottawa	150.00	—
Linda Folster, Winnipeg	(125.00)	—
Bill Gambill, Northwestern Ontario	83.33	—
Gary Harland, Lesser Slave Lake	—	33.00
Lloyd Harriman, Northwestern Ontario	—	14.00
Alan Harris, Winnipeg	225.00	—
Ernie Hart, Winnipeg	166.67	—
C. W. John, Northwestern Ontario	20.00	—
Ava Johnston, Vancouver	290.00	—
Bill (Wm.) Johnston, Vancouver	310.00	—
Louise Lafrenière, Winnipeg	(125.00)	—

Trainees	Fees	Expenses
Harold Linklater, Northwestern Ontario	100.00	141.85
David Loonfoot, Northwestern Ontario	100.00	141.85
G. McPherson, Northwestern Ontario	100.00	141.85
Nelson Miller, Vancouver	73.23	—
John Moffa, Toronto	200.00	—
Priscilla Morriseau, Northwestern Ontario	100.00	240.35
V. Morriseau, Northwestern Ontario	100.00	141.85
D'Arcy Murphy, Vancouver	91.08	—
R. Myre, Montreal	1,000.00	5.00
Harold Nabigon, Northwestern Ontario	100.00	141.85
L. Namakeesic, Northwestern Ontario	100.00	141.85
John Phillips, Toronto	100.00	—
Laura Phillips, Toronto	100.00	—
Carol Pickles, Winnipeg	185.00	—
George Simard, Northwestern Ontario	100.00	141.85
Elizabeth Slye, Toronto	100.00	—
Richard Slye, Toronto	100.00	—
Noel Starr, Montreal	27.00	50.00
Naz Therriault, Yellowknife	100.00	153.85
Rod Tyler, Buffalo Narrows, Sask.	200.00	89.05
Carol Wilson, Fort Qu'Appelle, Sask.	200.00	—
Rob Wood, Vancouver	—	66.50
Sam Wynne, Northwestern Ontario	100.00	175.35
David Isaac, Northwestern Ontario	400.00	392.11
R. Gardner (Preliminary selection)	—	132.00
Total	$7,976.70	$3,643.94

Contracted Temporary Project and Other Staff	Fees	Expenses
Hubert Beaudry, Petite Bourgogne Project, Montreal	$4,395.46	$ 656.25
Leo Bertacchi, Toronto Development Project, Toronto	1,237.50	—
André Bonin, ACEF Projects, Montreal	1,400.00	403.58
Micheline Bonin, Administrator, Montreal Office	3,200.00	—
E. Deveaux, Cape Breton Project, Sydney	750.00	862.20
John Ferguson, Southern Saskatchewan Project, Fort Qu'Appelle, Sask.	1,000.00	344.00
N. Fortin, animatrice, Petite Bourgogne Project, Montreal	1,166.64	—
Gerry Gambill, Associate Director of Programmes and formerly Regional Director of Ontario Region	7,687.46	770.50
Richard Gaudreault, administrator, Montreal Office	3,792.96	1,034.53
Harold Harper, Winnipeg Project	3,825.00	536.00
John Kelsey, Public Relations Staff, Ottawa Office	—	253.09
Ron Krupp, Don Area Project, Toronto	600	109.10
Jean Laberge, Centre East Project, Montreal	2,192.45	—
Michel Lapierre, Lanaudière Project, Joliette, Quebec	500.00	140.26
Dennis Lee, Rochdale College Project, Toronto	8,350.00	11.60
Anne Legare, animatrice, Centre Est Project, Montreal	$2,124.99	$ 339.53
Denis Leroux, animateur, ACEF Project, Montreal	1,854.16	—
John MacKenzie, Rochdale College Project, Toronto	8,350.00	236.00
Pierre Renaud, project staff, Quebec region	3,759.97	145.02

	Fees	Expenses
André Saindon, Information Officer for Quebec	228.80	—
Harold Sault, Northwestern Ontario Project, Port Arthur	1,230.00	—
Tom Wakayama, Photographer for CYC publications and advertising	6,000.00	2,426.62
Claire Lamarche, Information officer, Montreal office	2,094.64	60.75
Nicole Béliveau, Information Officer, Quebec region	4,375.00	456.10
Denis Gagné, Selection Staff, Ottawa Office	825.00	—
Michèle Lauzon, Selection Staff, Quebec region	4,704.55	393.91
Total	$75,644.58	$9,179.04

(a) Consultants in Research and Documentation

	Fees	Expenses
A. Anderson	$ 150.00	$ —
C. Benoit	886.37	133.15
Bureau d'Information et Recherche de Québec re: Luc Laliberté	30.00	—
O. Chouinard	886.37	165.02
Albert Dugas	886.37	43.00
Alain Even	2,839.77	741.86
C. Fisher	80.00	71.75
P. Galipeau	1.020.00	1,131.77
D. Henault	200.00	—
Anthony Hyde	7,500.00	1,424.26
D. Lefebvre	500.00	—
L. Limpus	82.50	—
Blondin Maurice	886.37	108.81
H. Meynaud	—	606.00
Marc-André Morency	150.00	219.95
Dolores Nanie	—	32.70
Arthur Pape	17,662.50	6,151.34
Michael Rowan	5,115.00	716.86
C. Richard	500.00	—
Linda Seese	1,900.00	—
Heather Sim	2,414.77	—
John R. Seeley	2,150.00	478.29
R. B. Wallace	1,500.00	—
P. Warrian	650.00	—
Total	$47,990.02	$12,024.76

(b) Consultants in Training

	Fees	Expenses
L. Groulx	$ 180.00	$ —
M. Laplante	100.00	—
J. Leveille	75.00	—
M. Mason	240.00	—
P. Melancon	60.00	—
Jack Minnis	2,150,00	708.30
T. D. Poole	150.00	22.80
David Rodnick	750.00	58.45
Frieda Smee	600.00	10.00
Ed Smee	150.00	27.70
Strathmere Associates	125.00	8.00
Farrell Toombs	1,250.00	—
Total	$5,830.00	$ 835.25

(c) Consultants in Selection

	Fees	Expenses
W. H. Antaya	$ —	$ 149.76
R. Bergeron	1,500.00	54.80
R. M. Bray	180.00	—
Brown Camps	378.00	—
Centre Phycho-Social	45.00	—
T. Gauthier	154.00	—
Human Behaviour Research Group	—	221.00
David Jackson	—	26.80
Michel Maletto	—	22.82
D. O'Neill	—	71.50
J. Thibault	674.95	86.85
B. Charleson	26.00	—
J. Garneau	1,350.00	64.80
R. Guy	150.00	—
R. Leduc	1,650.00	34.80
Dr. L. Pulos	300.00	—
L. Sawchuk	170.00	—
J. Birdwell	175.00	—
R. C. Conklin	175.00	—
Don Pettit	30.00	5.72
Total	$6,957.95	$ 738.85

(d) Consultants in Programme Development

	Fees	Expenses
H. Adams	$ 150.00	$ —
Wilf Allen	600.00	36.00
Eric Antella	900.00	—
Ernie Benedict	—	126.90
Wilf Borden	1,104.55	—
L. Brault (Breault)	1,390.91	—
Jackie Briscoe	900.00	—
G. Bourret	75.00	—
Ray Chouinard	117.93	—
Don Cornish	1,500.00	36.75

	Fees	Expenses
Pino Creatore	3,968.00	—
R. C. Cromarty	2,127.27	21.00
Stan Daniels	2,190.00	1,834.65
K. Eaton	—	358.00
G. Fredette	75.00	—
Mrs. M. Gossen	150.00	49.80
Denis Goulet	600.00	—
T. Green	100.00	141.85
R. Henney	1,000.00	749.98
W. Hesketh	300.00	—
P. Jauvin	3,833.31	18.30
A. J. Karch	1,175.20	372.00
Fred Kelly	3,477.27	3,535.67
Ruth Kelly	1,400.00	42.00
Wayne Kelsey	545.46	—
Hector King	39.60	—
Stanley King	13.20	—
F. Latremouille	1,131.82	—
Pierre Lecours	2,933.36	136.05
Paul Lumsden	—	160.00
A. Manson	225.00	20.50
R. Marinelli	300.00	—
Joan Newman	809.09	32.90
P. O'Neill	400.00	399.00
S. Pelletier	365.91	—
C. Piche	645.00	(84.15)
Liora Proctor	7,745.45	1,830.20
Y. Rabin	—	7.00
Marjaleena Repo-Davis	15,000.00	—
Satu Repo-Martell	1,500.00	66.50
J. T. Roberts	2,623.64	314.26
M. Roberts	100.00	15.45
Libby Robinson	900.00	—
Phyllis Robinson	4,950.00	209.30
N. Roy	1,090.91	—
Matt Schoenfeldt	—	215.65
Murray Smith	—	453.25
R. Sutherland	50.00	—
J. Taylor	147.00	501.51
I. Wallace	400.00	—
Jerry Webb	1,400.00	14.00
L. Wood	185.00	—
J. Young	913.64	176.38
Andrew Zane	1,225.00	217.40
Paul Becker	1,500.00	68.00
*J. Bouvier	—	192.00
Henryane de Chaponay	—	100.80
C. Fiddler	—	98.00
E. Fiddler	100.00	141.85
F. Bertrand-Ede	333.33	—
Phil Fontaine	1,575.00	131.79
*M. Maccagno	—	192.00
Wilf Pelletier	375.00	42.75
Joy Woolfrey	2,001.00	1,813.76
Harold Cardinal	—	266.60
D. Critchley	100.00	94.10
J. Grandmaison	45.00	—
J. Roy	2,131.82	500.00
W. Smith	—	298.59
Henrietta Grant	293.18	—
W. J. Wacko	—	253.30
Vancouver Boys Club (Services of John Flemming)	200.00	—
Janet Spence	131.00	—
J. Poupart	75.00	—
S. D. Alinsky	—	229.66
Canadian Indian Youth Council	2,250.00	1,163.35
Friends of Youth & Community Projects in Nova Scotia	1,000.00	—
Student Christian Movement	3,000.00	—
Ralph Bruyère	140.00	—
G. Eyford	300.00	—
R. Noganosh	80.00	—
D. Wawia	60.00	—
J. Whitford	400.00	—
Monique Crevier	540.00	49.05
Ken Crowe	150.00	—
Godfrey's Travel Service (re Dr. A. Gladstone)	118.00	—
Total	$89,671.85	$17,643.70

*Amount covers tickets which were not used and returned for refund in following fiscal year.

(e) Consultants in International Programme Development

	Fees	Expenses
Lise Beaulieu (Fournier)	$ 3,212.00	$ 150.97
William Curry	525.00	42.35
O. Fortin	—	13.50
Denise Fortin	2,069.10	16.50
Gerry Hunnius	11,000.00	8,140.82
Y. Husereau	2,000.00	—
P. Gelineau	50.00	7.75
Morency Rioux	—	55.55
Total	$18,856.10	$ 8,427.44

(f) Consultations in Recruitment

	Fees	Expenses
Colleen Ashworth	$ —	$ 200.43
F. Bertrand	—	666.66
C. Dufour	1,059.52	—
Total	$1,059.52	$ 867.09

(g) Consultants in Public Relations

	Fees	Expenses
J. Fournier	$ 100.00	$ —
J. Carter	—	240.00
D. Fraser	—	86.00
Pamela Harris-Macleod	901.40	136.31
M. Martel	1,204.50	132.41
G. Robert	—	50.00
H. Tizon	—	50.00
Total	$2,205.90	$ 694.72

Interviews for Staff Positions

	Fees	Expenses
Lynn Butts	$ —	$ 71.55
Mortimer Davis	—	14.25
Archie Gaber	54.00	106.50
Four Seasons Travel re: Marty Kashuba	109.00	—
W. J. Hutton	—	16.50
R. Marcoux	—	151.90
R. Voss	—	88.85
Total	$ 163.00	$ 449.55

Incorrectly Coded

	Fees	Expenses
Marilyn Assheton-Smith (should have been coded to staff expenses)	$ —	$ 61.50
Michel Coupal (should have been coded to staff expenses)	—	38.00
Ron Christiansen (should have been coded to staff expenses)	195.00	—
DeWeerdt, Searle & Fraser (should have been coded to Professional Fees)	848.45	—
Berger, Tisdall, Clark & Lesly Ltd. (should have been coded to Professional Fees)	4,380.80	1,179.06
Gilles Desrochers et Associés (should have been coded to Professional Fees)	2,974.07	231.77
Stewart Goodings (should have been coded to staff expenses)	—	72.00
G. Khattar (should have been coded to Professional Fees)	115.00	—
Louise Perry (should have been coded to Professional Fees)	—	25.00
Miss M. Hancey (should have been coded to staff travel)	—	232.00
Société Mathématique Appliquée (should have been coded to Professional Fees)	$ —	$ 43.15
Louise Faribeau (should have been coded to Professional Fees)	—	16.43
Gaby Regnier (should have been coded to Professional Fees)	1,550.00	—
Leslie Regnier (should have been coded to Professional Fees)	2,300.00	—
Town of Glace Bay, N.S. re taxes for S. McLean and P. Ross (should have been coded to maintenance and up-keep)	40.50	—
Dr. Kovacs (should have been coded to Professional Fees)	200.00	23.76
P. S. Ross & Partners (should have been coded to Professional Fees)	1,544.54	—
G. Charbonneau (should have been coded to Professional Fees)	54.00	—
Total	$14,202.36	$1,922.67

OFFICIAL REPORT OF MINUTES

OF

PROCEEDINGS AND EVIDENCE

This edition contains the English deliberations and/or a translation into English of the French.

Copies and complete sets are available to the public by subscription to the Queen's Printer. Cost varies according to Committees.

Translations under the direction of the Bureau for Translations, Secretary of State.

ALISTAIR FRASER,

The Clerk of the House.

HOUSE OF COMMONS

First Session—Twenty-eighth Parliament

1968-69

STANDING COMMITTEE

ON

MISCELLANEOUS ESTIMATES

Chairman: Mr. FERNAND E. LEBLANC

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS AND EVIDENCE

No. 7

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 1969

Respecting

SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATES (B) 1968-69
INCLUDING SECOND REPORT TO THE HOUSE

WITNESSES:

(See Minutes of Proceedings)

THE QUEEN'S PRINTER, OTTAWA, 1969

29520—1

STANDING COMMITTEE
ON
MISCELLANEOUS ESTIMATES

Chairman: Mr. Fernand Leblanc

Vice-Chairman: Mr. Aurélien Noël

and

Mr. Alkenbrack,
Mr. Éthier,
Mr. Gillespie,
Mr. Gundlock,
Mr. Laniel,
Mr. Marchand
(*Kamloops-Cariboo*),
Mr. McCutcheon,
Mr. Nystrom,
Mr. Paproski,
Mr. Peddle,
Mr. Penner,
Mr. Perrault,
Mr. Robinson,
Mr. Rochon,
Mr. Rodrigue,
Mr. Schumacher,
Mr. Thomson
(*Battleford-Kindersley*)—20.

D. E. Levesque,
Acting Clerk of the Committee.

Mr. Murphy replaced Mr. Éthier on February 24, 1969

Mr. Goode replaced Mr. Perrault on February 24, 1969

Mr. Gervais replaced Mr. Durante on February 24, 1969

Mr. Guay (*Lévis*) replaced Mr. Laniel on February 24, 1969

Mr. Lambert (*Edmonton West*) replaced Mr. Schumacher on February 24, 1969

ORDERS OF REFERENCE

THURSDAY, February 20, 1969.

Ordered,—That Vote 50 relating to the Auditor General;

Votes 1 and 5 relating to the Governor General and Lieutenant-Governors;

Votes 1, 5, 10, 15 and 20 relating to the Senate and the House of Commons;

Vote 25 relating to the Library of Parliament;

Votes 1, 5, 10 and 15 relating to the Privy Council;

Vote 20 relating to the Science Council;

Vote 30 relating to the Public Service Staff Relations Board;

Votes 20, 25, L135 and L140 relating to the National Capital Commission;

Votes 80 and 85 relating to the Public Service Commission;

Votes 1, 5, 15 and 20 relating to the Department of Supply and Services;

Votes 30 and 35 relating to Canadian Arsenals Limited;

Vote 40 relating to the Canadian Commercial Corporation;

Votes 1, 5 and 10 relating to the Treasury Board; and

Votes 15, 20, 25 and 30 relating to the National Research Council be referred to the Standing Committee on Miscellaneous Estimates.

MONDAY, February 24, 1969.

Ordered,—(1) That, in relation to the consideration of a motion or motions to concur in the final Supplementary Estimates (B) presented to the House this day and the passage of any bill to be based thereon, the provisions of Standing Order 58 shall apply, subject to the conditions hereunder stated.

(2) That upon the adoption of this proposed Order, the said Estimates shall stand referred to the Standing Committee on Miscellaneous Estimates, as follows:

Votes 10b, 15b, 17b, 20b, 25b, 30b, 35b and 45b relating to the Department of Agriculture;

Vote 65b relating to the Canadian Livestock Feed Board;

Vote 10b relating to the Department of Communications;

Votes 1b and 25b relating to the Department of Consumer and Corporate Affairs;

Votes 50b and L3b relating to the Department of Energy, Mines and Resources;

Vote 75b relating to the Dominion Coal Board;

Votes 1b, 15b and L22b relating to the Department of External Affairs;

Vote 30b relating to the Canadian International Development Agency;

Votes 2b, 30b, 46b and L27b relating to the Department of Finance;

Votes 15b, 18b, 40b and L32b relating to the Department of Fisheries and Forestry;

29520—1½

Votes 5b, 20b, 30b, 35b, 36b, L35b and L65b relating to the Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development;

Votes 38b and L82b relating to the Department of Industry and Trade and Commerce;

Votes 5b, 12b and 20b relating to the Department of Labour;

Votes 5b and 15b relating to The Senate and the House of Commons;

Votes 6b, 10b, 15b and 25b relating to the Department of Manpower and Immigration;

Votes 20b and 40b relating to the Department of National Health and Welfare;

Vote L83b relating to the Department of National Revenue;

Votes 10b and 15b relating to the Privy Council;

Votes 15b, 20b, 25b and 30b relating to the Department of Public Works;

Vote 10b relating to the Department of Regional Development;

Votes 1b and 2b relating to the Department of the Secretary of State;

Vote 40b relating to the Canadian Radio-Television Commission;

Votes 1b and L103b relating to the Department of the Solicitor General;

Votes 7b, 8b, 15b, 16b and L104b relating to the Department of Supply and Services;

Votes 3b, 15b, 20b, 40b, L107b and L110b relating to the Department of Transport;

Votes 57b, 60b and 65b relating to the Canadian Transport Commission;

Votes 75b and 77b relating to the National Harbours Board;

Votes 5b, 6b and 10b relating to the Treasury Board;

Votes 30b and 35b relating to the Department of Veterans Affairs; and

Votes L116b, L117b, L118b and L119b relating to the Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation.

(3) That, unless the committee has reported these estimates back to the House on or before February 28, 1969, it shall be deemed that the committee has so reported on that date.

(4) That there be allotted to the consideration by the House of the said estimates and the consequent bill a total of three sitting days in lieu of the three provided under Standing Order 58(7) for the period between March twenty-sixth and June thirtieth, but such days shall not form part of the number of days allotted to the consideration of the business of supply for the period terminating on March twenty-sixth, 1969.

(5) That on the last of the three allotted days, if the bill be not previously passed by the House, the proceedings in relation to this proposed order shall be interrupted and disposed of in accordance with section (10) of Standing Order 58.

(6) That the hour for Private Members' Business, if any, on any such allotted day be suspended.

ATTEST:

ALISTAIR FRASER,
The Clerk of the House of Commons.

REPORT TO THE HOUSE

WEDNESDAY, February 26, 1969.

The Standing Committee on Miscellaneous Estimates has the honour to present its

SECOND REPORT

Pursuant to its Order of Reference of Monday, February 4, 1969, your Committee has considered the following items listed in the Supplementary Estimates (B) for the fiscal year ending March 31, 1969:

Votes 10b, 15b, 17b, 20b, 25b, 30b, 35b and 45b, relating to the Department of Agriculture;

Vote 65b, relating to the Canadian Livestock Feed Board;

Vote 10b, relating to the Department of Communication;

Votes 1b and 25b, relating to the Department of Consumer and Corporate Affairs;

Vote 50b, relating to the Department of Energy, Mines and Resources;

Vote 75b, relating to the Dominion Coal Board;

Votes 1b, 15b, relating to the Department of External Affairs;

Vote 30b, relating to the Canadian International Development Agency;

Votes 2b, 30b and 46b, relating to the Department of Finance;

Votes 15b, 18b and 40b, relating to the Department of Fisheries and Forestry;

Votes 5b, 6b and 10b, relating to Treasury Board.

Your Committee commends them to the House.

A copy of the relevant Minutes of Proceedings and Evidence (*Issue No. 7*) is tabled.

Respectfully submitted,

FERNAND E. LEBLANC,
Chairman.

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

(*Text*)

TUESDAY, February 25, 1969.
(7)

The Standing Committee on Miscellaneous Estimates met this day at 9.35 a.m. The Chairman, Mr. Fernand Leblanc, presiding.

Members present: Messrs. Alkenbrack, Gervais, Gillespie, Goode, Lambert (*Edmonton West*), Leblanc (*Laurier*), Marchand (*Kamloops-Cariboo*), McCutcheon, Murphy, Noël, Paproski, Peddle, Penner, Rochon, Rodrigue, Thomson (*Battleford-Kindersley*)—(16).

Witnesses: From the Treasury Board: Honourable C. M. Drury, Minister; Mr. Sylvain Cloutier, Assistant Secretary; Mr. W. G. Hoose, Estimates and Supply Division.

Present: Mr. A. D. Hales, M.P.

The Chairman read the Order of Reference relating to Supplementary Estimates (B) for the fiscal year ending March 31, 1969, and called Vote 5b—Treasury Board Contingencies $105,000,000 and introduced the Honourable C. M. Drury, Minister, who read a statement and answered questions.

At 11.50 a.m. the Minister was excused and departed.

The Chairman asked the Committee for permission to sit without a quorum.

After discussion it was,

Agreed,—That the Chairman be authorized to hold meetings, to receive and authorize the printing of evidence when a quorum is not present provided that each party is represented.

Mr. Sylvain Cloutier was called and the Committee continued its study of Vote 5b.

After consideration the following votes were carried:

5b—$105,000,000; 6b—$1,614,637; 10b—$204,000.

This completed the Supplementary Estimates relating to the Treasury Board.

On Agriculture Estimates, the following Votes were severally discussed and carried:

10b—$1.00; 15b—$1.00; 17b—$1.00; 20b—$1.00; 25b—$1.00; 30b—$1.00; 35b—$811,800; 45b—$1.00.

On Canadian Livestock Feed Board Vote 65b—$1.00 was carried.

At 12:35 p.m., the Committee adjourned to 3:30 p.m. this day.

AFTERNOON SITTING
(8)

The Committee met at 3:30 p.m. The Chairman, Mr. Leblanc, presided.

Members present: Messrs. Alkenbrack, Gervais, Gillespie, Goode, Lambert (*Edmonton West*), Leblanc (*Laurier*), Marchand (*Kamloops-Cariboo*), McCutcheon, Noël, Peddle, Penner, Robinson, Rochon, Rodrigue, Thomson (*Battleford-Kindersley*)—(15).

Present: Mr. Ray Perrault, M.P.

Witness: Mr. Sylvain Cloutier, Assistant Secretary, Treasury Board.

The Committee resumed consideration of the Supplementary Estimates (B) for the fiscal year ending March 31, 1969.

The following Votes were duly examined and carried:

Department of Communications, Vote 10b—$1.00; Consumer and Corporate Affairs, Vote 1b—$242,400, 25b—$150,000; Energy, Mines and Resources, Vote 50b—$1.00; Dominion Coal Board, Vote 75b—$1.00; External Affairs, Votes 1b—$1.00, 15b—$1.00; Canadian International Development Agency, Vote 30b—$1.00; Finance, Votes 2b—$1.00, 30b—$690,000, 46b—$553,393; Fisheries and Forestry, Votes 15b—$1.00; 18b—$6,541,900, 40b—$1.00.

At 5:15 p.m., the Committee adjourned to 3:30 p.m., Wednesday, February 26, 1969.

D. E. Levesque,
Clerk of the Committee.

EVIDENCE

(Recorded by Electronic Apparatus)

Tuesday, February 25, 1969

• 0940

The Chairman: I will call the meeting to order. As you know, supplementary estimates B, 1968-69 have been referred to this Committee for consideration.

I have in front of me the order of reference which reads as follows:

> (1) That, in relation to the consideration of a motion or motions to concur in the final Supplementary Estimates (B) presented to the House this day and the passage of any bill to be based thereon, the provisions of Standing Order 58 shall apply, subject to the conditions hereunder stated.
>
> (2) That upon the adoption of this proposed Order, the said Estimates shall stand referred to the Standing Committee on Miscellaneous Estimates, as follows:
>
> Votes 10b, 15b, 17b, 20b, 25b, 30b, 35b, and 45b relating to the Department of Agriculture,...

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): Perhaps we could dispense with the detail of all the votes. I think it was just the operative part of the order that we wanted.

The Chairman: All right, we will dispense with the detail of the votes that are to be carried here. I will continue:

> (3) That, unless the committee has reported these estimates back to the House on or before February 28, 1969, it shall be deemed that the Committee has so reported on that date.
>
> (4) That there be allotted to the consideration by the House of the said estimates and the consequent bill a total of three sitting days in lieu of the three provided under Standing Order 58(7) for the period between March twenty-sixth and June thirtieth, but such days shall not form part of the number of days allotted to the consideration of the business of supply for the period terminating on March twenty-sixth, 1969.
>
> (5) That on the last of the three allotted days, if the bill be not previously passed by the House, the proceedings in relation to this proposed order shall be interrupted and disposed of in accordance with section (10) of Standing Order 58.
>
> (6) That the hour for Private Members' Business, if any, on any such allotted day be suspended.

This is our order of reference.

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): May I raise a question on that part, Mr. Chairman? My question is, first of all within the consideration of the procedure committee this five-day limit on consideration of final supplementary estimates was never in contemplation, and I do not think it is included within the rules. I have noted the direction of the House Leader on this. I think this is something that has happened once and will not happen again.

Second, I would like to know why these estimates are considered final estimates. Perhaps we could make it a subsequent question for the Minister to determine why they are, because many items which normally appear in final supplementary estimates are not here.

Hon. C. M. Drury (President of the Treasury Board): These are the final supplementary estimates. A sincere endeavour has been made, Mr. Chairman, my suggestion is to try to get everything possible into the main estimates and to keep the supplementary estimates to the barest possible minimum. The step in working towards this occurred in the large scale revision of the estimates which was tabled last fall and I am not sure to which particular items normally in final supplementary estimates Mr. Lambert is referring when he says they are not here.

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): The principal ones, I would say, are those for the Agricultural Stabilization Board which, of

• 0945

course, come in for March 31, because it is quite impossible for the government, under

any circumstances, to determine how much it is going to cost by March 31 if it has prepared these at this time and has a whole month of operations ahead of it. With the best of goodwill, it is only a by-guess-and-by-gosh proposition relative to those particular items.

It may be that somewhere in the complex detail of these they do appear, but I have not been able to dig them out. Certainly this has been the practice in the past. I want to find out...

Mr. Drury: This, as usual, appears in the final supplementary estimates in Vote 17b. Clearly an estimate has to be made here, and these are estimates, gauged as accurately as possible to, in a sense, forecast the final cleanup.

It is my understanding that final supplementary estimates are always entered and passed prior to the termination of the fiscal year. This is not a cleanup operation which takes place following the end of the year but prior to the end of the year. Consequently, they are, as the name indicates, still estimates. It is not a final settlement of the accounts.

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): As a supplementary, Mr. Chairman, what if there is a shortfall on this estimate? How do you recoup?

Mr. Drury: A sum has been provided in the estimates for next year to cover the Agricultural Stabilization Board, and to the extent that that, including any shortfalls which emerge from the accounts after the end of the fiscal year, is inadequate to meet it out of the main estimate, there will have to be a supplementary estimate next year.

The final delineation of the cost does not appear in either the estimates or the final supplementary estimates but in the public accounts. This is the accurate...

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): That is fine. I thank the Minister for his explanation.

The Chairman: Perhaps we can wait until Mr. Drury makes his statement on all those estimates before we start asking the various questions we have in mind.

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): Mr. Chairman, you will see, though, that I wanted to know why it was final estimates when even the government on the Rules Committee and the Ministers on the Rules Committee all were agreed that these should come in in the semester following March 31.

Mr. Drury: It is my understanding that there was not a clear understanding on when these were normally tabled, but I think, Mr. Chairman, if one consults the record it will be found that they are entered and considered prior to the end of the fiscal year.

The Chairman: All right, gentlemen. Mr. Drury will now proceed with his statement on the final supplementary estimates for 1968-69 which were tabled in the House yesterday and referred to us. Mr. Drury, please.

Mr. Drury: Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen, these Estimates are the final supplementary estimates for the fiscal year 1968-69. As usual, they contain both budgetary items and Loans, Investments and Advances. The former category, which amounts to $152,000,000, is just under the amount indicated for budgetary items when the main estimates for 1969-70 were tabled a few weeks ago. This brings the total budgetary estimates for 1968-69 to $10,823,000,000.

The loans, investments and advances included in these supplementary estimates total just over $70,000,000. The difference between this amount and the $36,000,000 indicated for such items in the main estimates for 1969-70 is accounted for by three items, the need for which was not evident at the time the main estimates for 1969-70 were

• 0950

printed. These items are:

(a) Loans to Eldorado Nuclear Limited in the amount of $22,000,000. This is a fallback item as it is likely that the Corporation's requirements will be met through direct borrowing from private financial institutions.

(b) Loans of up to $6,000,000 to assist the groundfish industry. At an earlier stage it appeared that this requirement would require a budgetary item, but I am pleased to report that the Government's objectives in this respect will be pursued by means of loans rather than grants.

(c) An item on page 28 creating a $7,000,000 Revolving Fund for the Canadian Government Printing Bureau. This item is not new as it will replace the Bureau's existing statutory Revolving Fund, the authority for which will lapse with the

passage of Bill C-173, the Government Organization Bill. The new Revolving Fund will reflect the need for increased working capital.

I would like to draw to the attention of the Committee, Mr. Chairman, a new feature in these supplementary estimates, namely, the use of funds available from other appropriations previously approved by Parliament to meet other requirements within the same ministry. As members are aware, the past practice had been to vote additional monies to meet all requirements that could not be met from the same vote. I draw your attention, for example, to the first item in these supplementary estimates, Vote 10b for agriculture on page 2, in which you will notice that the gross requirement of $1,216,400 has been offset completely by funds available in another vote of that ministry. The amount of $1.00, of course, is necessary to bring the item before the House and to obtain the approval of Parliament for the transfer. We believe that this approach reflects more accurately the net additional requirements of the Government than past supplementary estimates practice.

As I mentioned earlier, Mr. Chairman, the budgetary requirements in these supplementary estimates total approximately $152,000,000. The Committee will note that about two-thirds of this total is sought for one vote: the Treasury Board Contingencies Vote, to be found on page 23. This is, of course, a very large sum. It represents our assessment of the demand to be made upon the Treasury as a result of the completion of the collective bargaining negotiations now under way in the Public Service. As it is not possible to assess this requirement on a vote-by-vote basis, much as we would like to, we propose that the funds be provided centrally in this Contingencies Vote and that allotments from this Vote be made to supplement the votes of individual departments and agencies as their requirements are determined following the conclusion of individual collective bargaining agreements.

May I point out, Mr. Chairman, an unusual feature of this proposed appropriation. The amounts involved are, as I have said, substantial, and collective bargaining is a process in which no employer should allow the particular accounting system under which he operates to put him under undue pressure of time. We propose, therefore, that Parliament grant this appropriation worded in such a way as to allow payments owing in respect of 1968-69, or prior years, to be made and recorded up to April 30 next in the Public Accounts for 1968-69 under the title of the department requiring the money, and that the unexpended balance on that date remain available for salary adjustment payments that, in view of the need to close the books for the year 1968-69 at the end of April, would not be distributed among departments. I should like to emphasize that payments from this vote will be confined to amounts owing in respect of services rendered in 1968-69 and prior years.

Finally, I should add that the amounts requested under the Contingencies Vote will provide only for the costs of salary revisions arising out of collective bargaining. Other additional salary requirements are provided for in several departmental votes contained in these Estimates.

This concludes my general introductory remarks. My staff, with Mr. Cloutier, who is Assistant Secretary of the Treasury Board, will be at your disposal, and we will endeavour to provide all the explanations required to the best of our ability. I hope you will be indulgent, Mr. Chairman, if, on occasion, we suggest that you might wish to invite particular Ministers or their officials to provide more detailed comments, if these are desired, on some of the specifics of particular votes.

• 0955

The Chairman: Mr. Thomson?

Mr. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): On a point of order, Mr. Chairman. The Minister gave some financial details in his statement. I wish we had a copy of it. Had it been merely a comment on policy, it would have been fine, but I find it difficult to remember figures, particularly when they are given in the early part of a speech.

Mr. Drury: I apologize for that. The figures given are merely excerpts from the supplementary estimates before you. Of the amounts I have indicated, the total of $10 billion is in the record; the $36 million is in the record; the amount of the loan to Eldorado Nuclear Limited, $22 million, appears under its vote; and the $6 million to the ground-fish industry under that item.

Mr. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Did I understand you to say this was a loan?

Mr. Drury: That is correct.

Mr. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): And this was a loan to whom?

Mr. Drury: It will be moneys advanced to the Fisheries Prices Support Board which, in turn, will dispense this advance by way of repayable loans to the fishing industry rather than through a series of grants, as has been the case in the past.

Mr. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): To whom are they paid directly in that way?

Mr. Drury: They will be paid directly to the sellers of fish. The Fisheries Prices Support Board expects that one of the main elements of the ground-fish problem will be an oversupply of fish to the markets. The Board will receive an advance in the form of a loan from the Treasury. It will use this to buy fish from the suppliers, who will generally be the processors, hold it until the time of marketing is appropriate, and sell it and recover their cost.

Mr. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): In effect, it is to the Board, though, not to individual fishermen?

Mr. Drury: It is to the Board.

Mr. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Mr. Chairman, I will pass for the moment. I may want to question later if we have time.

The Chairman: Mr. McCutcheon?

Mr. McCutcheon: Is Vote 5b, Government Administration, something new? Could Mr. Drury explain it to me? I refer to the paragraph in which it is stated:

> to establish as a reserve the unexpended balance of this Vote and of Treasury Board Vote 5

Is this something new, or is it an old established practice to have reserves built up?

Mr. Drury: It is not standard practice. It has been done on previous occasions. It is being done on this occasion because of the characteristics of the collective bargaining process and of the accounting problem of distributing the allocation of increased expenses over a variety of departments; in that one labour agreement will cover differing grades of employees perhaps in 10 or 12 departments, and it is relatively easy to calculate the total amount of money needed for all those in the bargaining unit in relation to their retroactive pay from the beginning of the contract date. It is quite a tedious, but merely tedious, accounting process to take this total amount and distribute it in relation to all the employees in all the departments. It takes time. Rather, knowing what these amounts are and repeating them in next year's estimates, which would have to be done if this amount of money were to lapse before the

• 1000

distribution could be made, it is proposed to carry this over for distribution in the next fiscal year in relation to the public accounts for 1968-69.

I should add that there is no intention here to pay, out of moneys appropriated in the current fiscal year, charges in relation to operations in the next fiscal year. This all relates to engagements made, to service performed, in 1968-69, which is the current year, and previous years.

Mr. McCutcheon: I am rather dense this morning. Am I to take it Mr. Drury, that this is largely for retroactive pay?

Mr. Drury: That is correct—entirely for retroactive pay.

Mr. McCutcheon: In other words, there is nothing hidden in here? I should not use the word "hidden". There is nothing in here which would lead you to say, "We are going to grant this department an increase in salary, and we have the money here"?

Mr. Drury: Relative to retroactive pay, that is correct, but not in respect of future pay increases, if you follow what I mean. We have some 72 bargaining units, and while the first round of bargaining with the Public Service was, hopefully, to be completed by last September, in fact there are some units with whom we are only starting to bargain in relation to the pay period beginning July 1, 1967.

Mr. McCutcheon: Then we can assume that they are going to get an increase?

Mr. Drury: I think that is a fair assumption.

Mr. McCutcheon: Okay. I pass for now, Mr. Chairman. Thank you.

The Chairman: Mr. Lambert.

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): I am interested in, first of all, the use of the contingency account. I think perhaps you are establishing a general grab bag here, Mr. Minister. I fully subscribe, I think, to the purpose that you are setting out, and we realize that you must have some funds available for paying these retroactive pay increases. But why use the contingency fund? This is the wrong use, I think.

Mr. Drury: I agree. It does not confine or meet strictly the notion that the contingency fund is for the sole purpose of looking after unforeseen, unpredictable contingencies. And I find the necessity for this not entirely satisfactory. But it does arise out of the fact that the bargaining is carried on by the Treasury staff as employer, not with departments or, indeed, the employees of a department, but with a group of employees whose distribution is horizontal through the government service. Consequently, the negotiations are on behalf of the employees in a number of different departments, and in order not to give an air of unreality to collective bargaining, to make it meaningful, it is important that the employer not indicate in advance either what the feeling is, or what the minimum is, or what he hopes will be the final settlement. This cannot be indicated, or should not be indicated.

If one were to try and make a forecast and distribute this by departments, it would be possible for one of the parties in the bargaining process to look at the printed Estimates and say, "This is what the government expects to settle for". This is not meaningfull collective bargaining. So what has to be done is to

• 1005

put a figure in the printed Estimates for the departments, and the amount we have chosen quite nominally is three per cent, so that this will not be astronomical. The whole range will not be in here. Three per cent is included under departmental Estimates and distributed on this basis in their Estimates and there is a balance, the difference between three per cent and what we estimate will be the final settled figure contained in this. It is hidden there, and it is deliberately hidden so that you cannot, as one of the bargaining parties, by looking at it reach any conclusion as to what the settlement might be.

When we conclude, for instance, an agreement with the operational group, some 40,000 strong, they are in almost every department of government. A conversion of the bargaining, the bargaining numbers, have then to be sent to the departments who then, in relation to all these members of the bargaining unit, calculate what, in relation to each individual, has been the effect of the collective agreement, the bargaining agreement reached. Then they enter into their accounts the precise amount of back pay which the agreement calls for, and this back pay is distributed on an accounting basis from this central amount here to the department for recording in the public accounts.

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): You will forgive me, Mr. Minister. As you were speaking the simile came to mind of the shell game.

An hon. Member: Poker game.

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): The shell game. You did not know under what shell the bean was hidden.

Mr. Drury: It is my understanding, although I do not travel too much in the West perhaps, that there is no pea under any shell. This is not the case here. We have a pea.

Mr. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): I was under the impression that it was a game of bluff, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. Drury: There is an element of bluff, if you like. This is bargaining. This is what collective bargaining is all about.

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): But, Mr. Minister, is it proposed to, shall we say, get away from the use of this contingency account? There is unfortunately also the temptation that, having put this money in here in a vote and you come up against some other emergency where the government might be pushed by reason of opposition or one thing or another, you resort to the contingency account to tide over in an emergency. That is not the purpose of the contingency account. The contingency account, as such, is there for a purpose and it is a question of parliamentary control over government. I, for one, would insist upon that.

This business of creating this fund for your labour negotiations, this is something new, but I think you are going to have to find some other device, to place your money in some position, or in your votes, or in some other place. Using the contingency account is an abuse, and it certainly is an abuse of parliamentary control. It is for that reason that I

question it. You have been frank with us here in saying what it is. But I personally think that it is not to be repeated, that some of your staff have got to use their ingenuity for something else.

Mr. Drury: As I have indicated to you, from the point of view of conveying information, this does not entirely please me. What we have been trying to do is to make the Estimates as clear a representation of both past and future expenditures as we can. In this particular case, the object is not clarity. It clearly is not, as I have indicated, and I have tried to give you the reason. The inge-

• 1010

nuity then must be exercised, not in relation to the portrayal of the Estimates or the names you give to accounts, but to change the character of the collective bargaining process. And what you, in effect, are saying is that in collective bargaining, in order to establish parliamentary control, we were going to ask the government to indicate accurately—and their performance be measured on the degree of accuracy—to indicate accurately what they are finally going to settle for in bargaining negotiations under way, or not yet started.

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): I think you have completely misinterpreted my point. In wanting parliamentary control, I want a no-raiding principle, that whatever you may call it—a contingency fund for your labour negotiations, and I agree with your purposes—there should be a no-raiding principle, so that you are not going to use that to squeeze out of another hole somewhere else.

Mr. Drury: Mr. Chairman, I think if one reads Item 5b, it is difficult to convert this quite narrow, precise wording into meeting either the requests from the Opposition for something or other, or an emergency arising out of a flood.

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): I am also concerned about, in the middle portion of the description, the words:

> to establish as a reserve the unexpended balance of this Vote and of Treasury Board Vote 5, Appropriation Act No. 4,

If that is to be a purpose, that you are going to accumulate reserves in the contingency account ...

Mr. Drury: In this particular case, Mr. Chairman, and only in relation to retroactive pay increases in this bargaining process.

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): Of course, this is going to be continuing, is it not? You have started and you have said, "We regretfully are only starting on negotiations which we thought would have been completed last September". But this is a rolling thing. It is going to keep on going, and I think that in future years you are going to see an ebb and flow in these negotiation proceedings.

Mr. Drury: We have just signed a contract covering a two-year period which expires July 1, 1969, so that the so-called collective agreement covers a period which is virtually past. It is a very difficult job indeed getting started, getting the people organized, getting them trained in this new approach to conditions of work in the collective bargaining process and learning is required on both sides —the employers and the employees, who have undergone changes in organization, changes in personnel, as a consequence of this. Now that the framework has been established it is reasonably clearly understood we would expect to be able to avoid these very large retroactivities and that the cycle, instead of being all in retrospect, could be to a very large degree prospective.

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): I will leave that one, if anybody wants to ask questions. I have some questions of detail with regard to this.

The Chairman: On round two we will come back to this. Mr. Thomson.

Mr. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Not for the moment.

The Chairman: Mr. Alkenbrack.

Mr. Alkenbrack: My question is for the Minister on the same Vote 5b. Are some of these funds not already owed by the government to certain bargaining units, for example, penitentiaries, employees of the Solicitor General's department?

Mr. Drury: I am not sure, Mr. Chairman, what you mean by "already owed".

Mr. Alkenbrack: Well, I note that you say "payable with respect to the 1968-69 and

• 1015

previous fiscal years". This indicates to me that you are trying to clean up some previous commitments made through collective bargaining in certain services where employees have not yet enjoyed the benefits of their

bargaining. I am informed, for one example, that some of the penitentiary employees have not received the increases in pay that they were supposed to receive last year.

Mr. Drury: I confess that I do not know the details of the penitentiary case.

Mr. Alkenbrack: That is why the question comes up in my mind.

Mr. Drury: There is no question about it. In respect of agreement which have been or will be signed subsequent to the tabling of the revised estimates for which no provision was made in respect of these agreements, there will be payments out of this fund as out of the fund in the revised estimates, in respect of service rendered not only in the current fiscal year but in the previous fiscal year, and to this extent it is a clean-up in that the amount of retroactive pay is only determined at the time that the agreement is reached. As I have indicated, we are still in the process of reaching agreements in relation to some of the bargaining units covering the period back to July 1, 1967.

Mr. Alkenbrack: Thank you. I agree that cleaning up of obligations made through collective bargaining in the past years must be done.

Mr. Drury: I do not want to convey the impression here that this envisages collective agreements signed a year ago which we have not got around to paying. This is not so. This is only to cover collective agreements not signed or envisaged in the revised main estimates.

Mr. Alkenbrack: Then, Mr. Chairman, is the Minister telling me that this amount that they are asking for will not cover commitments made in the example that I have cited?

Mr. Drury: I cannot tell you off-hand when the agreement with the penitentiary employees was signed.

Mr. Alkenbrack: I cannot tell you either but they are asking me. Some of them are constituents of mine and they are asking me, "When are we going to get our raise that was negotiated last year?" I do not know the date. But I thought this was a good example of interpretation of the line "previous fiscal years".

Mr. Drury: We have been trying to actually pay by cheque the amounts owing as a consequence of the collective agreements entered into as rapidly as possible. In general, this can be accomplished fairly quickly but where a man in the course of the past two years has had occasion to change this classification, to change his job a number of times, one has to search back through the departmental records and, in conjunction with the new agreement, reclassify him right back from July 1, 1968. He may be entitled to an increment in relation to a particular job he was doing for three months at a new rate of pay, then if he switched to something else a new calculation has to be made for that. He may have shifted to another department and you have to go to the next department to get this further increment. And in some instances the calculation of an individual's entitlement is rather lengthier than it should be. This is because of the long period of retroactivity. But in general we have been able to achieve payment of the back pay within the 90-day period provided under the statute.

• 1020

Mr. Alkenbrack: Supplementary to that and my last question, Mr. Chairman. We have cited an example of retroactive obligations on the part of the government as a result of the actions of bargaining units. Is part of this vote made up of future anticipation of further expenses for example, regarding the raise that has been reported pending for deputy ministers?

Mr. Drury: The pay arrangements for deputy ministers, of course, do not come under the collective bargaining agreements.

Mr. Alkenbrack: I realize that, Mr. Chairman, but is it not in this $105 million?

Mr. Drury: That is correct. Any retroactive pay that might be paid to deputy ministers could be paid out of this vote in relation to service prior to the end of the current fiscal year. But nothing prospectively; only in relation to retroactivity.

The Chairman: Gentlemen, you will have to excuse Mr. Drury as he has to leave for another appointment. Mr. Cloutier will stay with us, of course, as the witness from the Treasury Board.

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): Mr. Cloutier cannot answer my question. It is very short.

Mr. Drury: Is it one of detail?

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): It is a matter of interpretation here, particularly on retroactive pay increases, as to why there is a Treasury Board Minute in the 60,000 series, I think, that says that an employee of the government who has ceased to be in the employ, either through retirement or other reason, is not entitled to any retroactivity in pay for services rendered while he was in the employ of the government. In the case of the accord signed the other day which goes back two years from July 1, 1969, any person who, for instance, retired last month will not be entitled to any of that for 18 months of service. This, Mr. Minister, causes bitter complaints among permanent employees and also casual staff. I have seen casual staff—really casual permanent—who have been released from the government service so that they do not become permanent and subject to other regulations for perhaps a period of a month in the middle of the winter and because they have terminated their employment, they are not entitled to any retroactive pay increases. This, to me, is quite wrong and unfair. This is the point that I want to make.

Mr. Drury: In the particular circumstances you describe, I would think this is unfair. The thought, the notion behind the regulation is that if a man for reasons of his own terminates his employment with the government, retroactive pay in relation to service prior to his termination is not paid. If, however, the termination is—if I can put it—"involuntary", either to meet the convenience or needs of the government, or for medical reasons, then it is paid. But if a man decides that he can do better elsewhere than in the government service and leaves, there is no entitlement to retroactive pay under the regulations. If, however, as I say, for reasons beyond his control, which is a government decision to terminate because there is no more work, or

• 1025

they have somebody else for the job, or for medical reasons, or retirement at an age established by the government, then there is retroactive pay.

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): I cannot accept the reasoning there, actually, frankly. I think if a person, let us say a university student, has worked and has given the service, the value, like everybody else and there have been, shall we say, protracted negotiations, why should he be penalized? Why should any man be penalized because he happens to have severed his service? He worked and he gave the service and the government has recognized that the value of the service shall be X dollars per hour or X dollars per year during that time.

Mr. Drury: I think this really gets down to the changed nature of the employer-employee relationship as it constitutes collective bargaining. With collective bargaining now, the government, as employer, is required to pay what it takes to secure the services of the people it wants. If it can get them for less, it will and should. If it costs more, it will and perhaps should—if we accept free collective bargaining. When the student or whoever it may be enters into a contract to work with the government, he performs the services and he gets paid under the conditions then existing. If he goes away at his choice—not the government's choice—then I suggest that all the obligations of the government to that man are discharged. However, where the continuing employees say and insist that "as a condition of continuing to work we demand not only an increase in pay prospectively but a supplement to our pay retroactively"—and this is as a condition of continuing to work—then, if collective bargaining means anything, this is either agreed or disagreed, and if we wish to continue to have their services, we have to agree. But this is a demand made by the current employees in relation to the terms and conditions on which they will continue to work. I suggest it is not a recognition which might have been the case under the old dispensation where the government purported to operate as a paterfamilias in relation to its employees and do right, justice and the fair thing without any discussion on the part of the employees. Now the whole framework, the whole philosophy has changed as a consequence of collective bargaining.

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): Well, I will just give you a classic example. The National Capital Commission in this city has a number of employees who are casuals. Some are summer parks crews, a good number of them. Some of these men have been working regularly every year on a part-time basis and they come back. Some of them are students. As I recall it, some 18 months ago perhaps—less than that, 15 months ago—an agreement had been signed between the government and the employees awarding a retroactive pay increase. Many of these men had been working for some time and the retroactivity went

back quite some time. But because these men had been laid off—they were casuals—they were told, "You cannot get it. You will come

• 1030

in at the new pay rate next spring. But since you have been working, and you were not actually working the day the pay increase was announced, you are out of luck." I do not think this is fair. We can continue that discussion next week in the House if the Minister has to go. But I have seen this happening in maintenance staffs for the Department of National Health hospitals and I do not think it is fair.

Mr. Drury: Well, now, the principle is that where the termination is at the request of or for the convenience of the employer—and you have hinted rather that these terminations were to meet the convenience of the employer—under the regulations retroactive pay is supposed to be paid.

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton-West): But the Treasury Board does not interpret it that way.

Mr. Drury: I would be very glad indeed if you could adduce to me some instances where this appears to have gone awry. I would be delighted to correct them, or try to. Perhaps we will need more money.

Mr. McCutcheon: May I ask a supplementary, Mr. Chairman. I know the Minister is in a hurry to get away, and it has to do with the question of Mr. Alkenbrack and you pointed out to him that Deputy Ministers might draw retroactive pay from this fund. Just for my information, from what fund does the increase come?

Mr. Drury: The increase?

Mr. McCutcheon: Yes, not the retroactive part which you have described might come out of here.

Mr. Drury: Well, I think you are aware that there has been no decision reached as yet on altering the rates of pay of Deputy Ministers or people at an equivalent level. Insofar as prospective increases are concerned, they will appear in moneys set aside in next year's estimates.

Mr. McCutcheon: I have been referring to the increases recently reported in the papers.

Mr. Drury: I am not sure what those increases are. To my knowledge, no increase for any Deputy Minister has yet been approved. I think all members are aware of the fact that a rather distinguished outside group recommended to the government that public servants in the Deputy Minister or equivalent class should have pay increases, but as yet there has been no government decision authorizing this.

Mr. McCutcheon: Thank you, Mr. Minister. That just shows how one can misread the paper.

The Chairman: All right, gentlemen. I think we can excuse the Minister now.

Mr. Murphy: Mr. Chairman, I have a supplementary question.

The Chairman: Is that for the Minister or can it wait until we carry on?

Mr. Murphy: It is a very simple question.

The Chairman: All right, Mr. Murphy.

Mr. Murphy: Mr. Minister, there were some agreements signed last fall in the public service, some of them providing for retroactive pay as far back as 1966. Payment of those increases is not scheduled for some 90 days, as I understand, which brings the payment date near the end of February or early in March. The people involved are very interested to know whether they are going to have to pay this new 2 percent tax effective January 1?

Mr. Drury: I can give them an assurance which probably they will not like, that if they have not yet received their pay cheques, then when they do, they will be subject to the 2 per cent tax.

Mr. Murphy: Even though this covers raises going back to 1966?

Mr. Drury: That is correct. Under the Income Tax Act it is quite clear that payment of salaries, wages and other forms of emolument cannot be accrued, but are taxable in relation to the time at which they are paid. Do you follow me?

• 1035

Mr. Murphy: I follow you, but...

The Chairman: He follows you, but he does not like it.

Mr. Drury: I agree, and what is needed is an amendment to the Income Tax Act to allow accrual for wages as there is accrual for authors' works and a number of other things. In the case of the bargaining process of the government service, this probably would not

present too much of a problem, but the proposal to allow accrual of salaries and wages would have very substantial repercussions right throughout the whole economy, and is quite a big thing to do.

Mr. Murphy: That is probably a matter for Mr. Benson's department.

Mr. Drury: As you know, Mr. Benson is considering tax reform.

The Chairman: Mr. Gillespie, is your question to the Minister or can it wait?

Mr. Gillespie: My question, Mr. Chairman, is related to Vote 5b, and if we have a moment I would like to address it to the Minister. He mentioned in the course of his remarks a 3 per cent figure had been built into the salary figures, I think, in the Revised Estimates. Is this correct?

Mr. Drury: That is correct.

Mr. Gillespie: Could you give us some indication of what the total amount of the 3 per cent is that has already been built in, so that we can get an estimate of the total salary increases that are provided for in the estimates and how they relate to the total salaries paid in government service?

Mr. Drury: I do not have this in front of me, but there is in the estimate book for the current fiscal year a large spread-sheet showing the total of salaries and wages.

The Chairman: It is in the Blue Book. Do you wish to refer to the "Summary of Standard Objects of Expenditure"?

Mr. Drury: I am afraid not many members will have that. For 1968-69 the Revised Estimates provided a figure for "Civil Salaries and Wages" of $1,447,016,733.

Mr. Gillespie: Right.

Mr. Drury: That contains a 3 per cent figure.

Mr. Gillespie: So we are speaking, then, of about $45 million built into the Revised Estimates, and $105 million will look after the remainder. The $105 million is significantly more than 3 per cent; it is roughly 2½ times that. We are talking therefore of increases in the order of about 12 per cent?

Mr. Drury: Mr. Chairman, as I indicated earlier, this particular form of accounting is designed not to elucidate but to conceal. When you do your arithmetic here, I am going to try and confuse you—deliberately. What we have tried to do is present these numbers in such a way that it is not possible to make the kind of calculation that an individual or a leader of a negotiating group would like to do in order to calculate what the "sticking" point is likely to be.

I just might point out that where you have difficulties in doing the current arithmetic, included the final supplementary estimate figure is an amount covering not one fiscal year, but two fiscal years, going back to January, 1967—or, not the whole of even two, but a part of two fiscal years—whereas the 3 per cent figure on your calculation covers only that fiscal year.

Mr. Gillespie: Is it the practice of the

• 1040

Department to separate salary increases as distinct from increases on salary accounts? That is to say, there will be two aspects of increases; first, numbers of people, additions to the staff; and second, the increases in those already on strength.

Mr. Drury: The new estimates will show both the changes in numbers and the changes in growth emolument.

Mr. Gillespie: What was the percentage salary increase the year before last?

Mr. Drury: When you say the year before last, you mean...?

Mr. Gillespie: The year ending 1968.

Mr. Drury: The year ending 1968 was covered by the collective bargaining process and we are still in the process. I can tell you what the increases were in relation to some of the bargaining units, but other negotiations are not yet complete and I would hesitate to forecast.

Mr. Gillespie: I will not ask you to forecast, but what was the nature of the increases granted, let us say, in the year ended 1968 over that of 1967 and those that have been negotiated since in the year now ending? In other words, I want to get some idea in percentage terms of the trend in increases over a three year period.

The Chairman: Mr. Gillespie, I think the answers to your questions can be given by Mr. Cloutier as the Minister is urgently requested...

Mr. Drury: I do not have those numbers in my head, to be quite frank.

Mr. Gillespie: I would be pleased to put them to Mr. Cloutier.

The Chairman: Yes, I am sure.

Mr. Drury: You will find that the pattern or the look of the collective agreements shows quite a wide range of change. This is a result of the continuous process of reclassification and the effect of changing status of certain occupations in our industrial society. Some jobs have tended to become more valuable more rapidly than others which have either become more valuable more slowly, or indeed, some have even declined. The blacksmith, for instance, has not been able to command substantial increases in pay for his services over the past few years. Others, such as the software merchants in the computer field, the programmers, have seen the demand for their services and consequently the kind of pay they can command rises very rapidly. So that, the pattern of agreements reached with these collective bargaining groups has not been a standard flat per cent but an adjustment from the beginning of the period, July 1967 until July 1969. It would probably be a little misleading to give you a flat figure because you would find a number of agreements that were higher than this—although not noticeably, because by and large the Public Service was pretty well related to the outside economy—and some lower.

Mr. Gillespie: Mr. Chairman, I wish to compliment the Minister on confusing us. He set out to do the job and I think he did a good one!

Mr. Drury: My object was not to elucidate numbers. I had hoped to give you some idea of the framework within which all this is done. If I have confused you with the framework I have been a failure.

The Chairman: Thank you very much, Mr. Drury. We will now continue the meeting with Mr. Sylvain Cloutier who will be the official witness from the Treasury Board.

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): Mr. Chairman, just as a passing reference is the fact that, in the spread sheet, service pay and RCMP pay have been lumped in with civil pay in a column near salary and wages not also part of the deception? And, second, does the lumping together presage collective bargaining with the armed services?

• 1045

Mr. Drury: The answer to that is in the negative. It does not presage collective bargaining with either the police or the armed services. I regret the hon. member's pejorative use of the word "deception."

Mr. Gillespie: We really have a big problem here. This represents a very large part of this total budget. If we are going to play games to deceive through the estimates, or to conceal, we will, to that extent, remove the chance of members of parliament to do the sort of job that needs to be done in examining what the government is spending on government programs. In other words, we are removing, to some extent, control over expenditure. This bothers me. I am not sure that I have any solution, but perhaps as we go through this we will be enlightened.

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): I am suspicious that the disease will be spreading, too, into the other columns.

Mr. Gillespie: I can see the problems and the need for this, but to me it is a major problem.

Mr. Drury: Mr. Chairman, probably, the answer is that it is difficult for Parliament, in an increasingly complex society, in an economy where the government is participant in many more of the day-to-day activities of people, effectively to act as a manager. In seeking to exercise control, if the control is to be of the managerial kind, I am afraid there are really not enough days in the year for Parliament to act as manager. It will rather have to pronounce on principles and leave the execution of these principles to the administration, subject to a post-audit through scrutiny of the public accounts. That is why we have public accounts—to have a precise, accurate and detailed record of what has been

To put it in corporate terms, the shareholder of a large and complex corporation really had to abandon some years ago the notion that he can, at one stage removed, act as manager. He has to rely on enunciations of general principles and then decide, by examination of the detailed accounts after the event, whether these have been satisfactorily carried out.

The Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Drury.

Gentlemen, while we have a quorum I wish to bring to your attention Standing Order 65(7), relative to meetings without a quorum.

Would you be agreeable to having the following motion put forward:

> That the Chairman be authorized to hold meetings, to receive and authorize the printing of evidence when a quorum is not present.

As you know, this might happen at any time. We are sitting from 9.30 to 1 o'clock and from 3.30 to 6 o'clock today, tomorrow afternoon at 3.30 and on Thursday, at the same times as today. At one time or another we may lack a quorum. Can we agree to that motion?

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): On that point, Mr. Chairman, I of course immediately enter a caveat on this business of ramming through supplementaries on this basis, where you have three committee sessions on a day on essentially successive days, and then immediately call for them to be considered in the House on the monday following. Our staffs just simply cannot cope with the com-

• 1050

piling of the evidence. Our whole committee structure is just not geared for this at the present time. It may be ultimately, but at the present time it is not. I, for one, intend to protest most vehemently if every shred of evidence that is given at the meetings this week is not printed and in our hands by next Monday. I know that the staff just cannot cope with that. It is just not possible.

Therefore, the thinking of the Governement House Leader on this is, as usual, away off in orbit. We also have other responsibilities to the House.

I quite agree that we can hear evidence. We do that on other committees so long as the items are not passed.

The Chairman: The motion does not read that the items will be passed, but merely that the Chairman be authorized to hold meetings and to receive and authorize the printing of evidence when a quorum is not present. That is all.

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): And that quorum shall be representative, too. This is another practice that prevails in committees and has been a feature for the last two years. We do it in the Finance Committee. The quorum must be representative. It is not just a...

The Chairman: I was at one time on that Committee and I know that it has to be representative.

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): On that basis I am agreeable to this.

The Chairman: Then you will move the motion?

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): All right; I will move the motion. I am quite satisfied—within those limits.

The Chairman: Yes; that is agreed. Agreed?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

The Chairman: Are there any questions? Mr. Gillespie, have you completed your questions? Mr. Cloutier is now available if you wish to follow up your questioning.

Mr. Gillespie: Can Mr. Cloutier give me any idea—and I do not mean numbers of people—of what have been the annual percentage increases in the civil service over the last three years?

Mr. Sylvain Cloutier (Assistant Secretary of the Treasury Board, Program Branch): The problem, sir, is that the current phase of negotiations—the first cycle, so to speak—goes back to the period starting on July 1, 1967, and a few dates after that. Therefore, the agreements that are now being signed, that have been signed in the last few months, or that will be signed in the next several weeks, will cover all of that period. So that there is no figure applicable to the year 1967-68, nor is there one for the year 1968-69.

Mr. Gillespie: And when you talk about a year you are talking about a mid-year point—July 1?

Mr. Cloutier: I am really talking of the two-year cycle over which these bargaining groups are adjusted.

Mr. Gillespie: Is it expected that the salary year will be from July 1 to June 30?

Mr. Cloutier: This is subject to variation according to the particular arrangements negotiated at the bargaining table.

The phasing in of the bargaining process was provided for in the legislation which introduced the system and, if my memory serves me right, it indicated that the first agreements would have to be for a period of at least two years, starting at scheduled dates. The professional and scientific category and the technical category were scheduled on July 1, 1967; and the administrative and foreign service category, the administrative support

category and the operational category—were scheduled on October 1, 1967. Each of these first agreements was to cover the first two years at least; and this is this rather long period that is still in the negotiation stage.

Relative to prior arrangements, the salary adjustment authorized by government for the immediately preceding period, which was also a two-year period covering from July 1 and October 1, 1965, up to July 1 and October 1,

• 1055

1967, was actually authorized in the fall of 1965, as I recall it. The order of magnitude simply escapes my memory at this point.

Mr. Gillespie: Could it be determined from the public accounts?

Mr. Cloutier: Yes, it could be.

Mr. Gillespie: I think the Minister mentioned that there were 72 bargaining units. Is that correct?

Mr. Cloutier: Yes.

Mr. Gillespie: How many contracts have already evenutated from the 72?

Mr. Cloutier: I am afraid I will have to take a rain check on that question. I could have the answer available later, though.

Mr. Gillespie: Is it more than half?

Mr. Cloutier: I think it is probably less than half, sir, for the reason, as I mentioned that you have these categories of dates. The largest category is the professional and scientific service which I think accounts for some 27 or 30 groups. The bargaining in this category is not as advanced as it is in the operational category, for instance. I think the bargaining in the operational category is virtually completed for the first phase. Some contracts have been signed in the technical category; there have been a few in the professional category, but not the bulk of them; no contract has been signed in the operational support category nor in the administrative and foreign service category.

Mr. Gillespie: How many categories are there altogether?

Mr. Cloutier: There are five subject to bargaining. There is the operational, which can be categorized as the trades and labour; the administrative support, which is made up of clerical staff, stenographers, communicators and so on, there is the administration and foreign service category, which is made up of financial officers, personnel officers, departmental administrators, information officers, foreign services officers and so on; then there is the technical category, which is made up of technicians, airport traffic controllers, designers and illustrators; and the professional category which is made up of lawyers, accountants, veterinarians, and so on. There are about 30 different...

Mr. Gillespie: You mentioned that there have been some settlements in the professional categories.

Mr. Cloutier: Yes; the settlements that come to mind are the veterinarians—I should remember at least one or two more.

The Chairman: Why would the veterinarians be the first ones?

Mr. Cloutier: Well, it is the bargaining cycle, you see; the bargaining takes place when the employee organization serves notice to bargain and the Professional Institute of the Public Service which represents the veterinarians happened to be ready for this group and they served notice to bargain and the bargaining took place.

Mr. Gillespie: What was the nature of the settlement, in percentage terms?

Mr. Cloutier: I am afraid I do not remember at this point, sir.

Mr. Gillespie: That is all for the moment. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

The Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Gillespie. Mr. Thomson?

Mr. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Mr. Chairman, related to the questions of the last speaker, does this one group do all the negotiating for the government? Is there one group responsible for all these five categories?

Mr. Cloutier: There is one group that does the negotiating for all of the public servants who are not employed by "separate employers". Now, the legislation that established the bargaining system—the Public Service Staff Relations Act—provided that the Treasury Board would act for the government as employer in bargaining. Therefore, the Treasury Board staff conducts the bargaining on behalf of the government with all of the employees who are not employed by "separate employers". "Separate employers" are

listed in the Schedule to the Act and are made up of the National Research Council, the Economic Council—there are about five or six portions of the Public Service which are given "separate employers" status. Now, with respect to these, the responsibility for bargaining has been delegated to these agencies directly.

• 1100

Mr. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): A further question, Mr. Chairman. Are the Crown Corporations similar?

Mr. Cloutier: The National Research Council is a departmental Crown Corporation and it comes under the Public Service Staff Relations Act. Most of the Crown Corporations—the commercial type corporations listed in Schedule D of the Financial Administration Act and, I think, most of the agency Crown Corporations which are listed in Schedule C to the Financial Administration Act—have had collective bargaining for many, many years under the Industrial Relations and Disputes Investigation Act so that they were not brought under this system; they were left with the system under which they had operated before.

Mr. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): I have a further question, Mr. Chairman. For example, in speaking of the trades end of the pay there is a carpenter, we will say, who works for the Department of National Defence out in my riding. Would he receive the same pay there if he had the same training or qualifications as he would here in Ottawa? How is this arrived at?

Mr. Cloutier: No, sir; there has been a collective agreement signed. I think a carpenter would fall in the group called the General Labour and Trades Group which is the group that the Minister referred to earlier as encompassing something like 40,000 employees. I do not know whether it is precisely 40,000 but it is in that order of magnitude, and the collective agreement provided for local rates, so that the rate of pay that would be paid to the carpenter you are referring to would be arrived at at the bargaining table in relation to what carpenters earn in that area.

Mr. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Well, the particular ones that I happened to think of were complaining quite bitterly, so perhaps we will have to raise the rates in the area to give them a fair deal.

Mr. Cloutier: The whole approach at the bargaining table is to approximate, as closely as possible, the going rate in the labour market for a given occupation.

Mr. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Mr. Chairman, I would like to make a comment here. We have some regions in Canada that for one reason or another are economically depressed and because this area cannot help itself the carpenter or anybody else—and I am using this merely as an example—has to take less than an adequate living wage in that area to get a job. I do not think it is really right that the government should take advantage of labour in this sense.

I suggest that there should be some minimum, at least, whether that is adequate in that area or not. I do not think we should take advantage of labour merely because this is what we can get them for. I am not saying this is a general condition but I am wondering if it is not true, in view of what you said, in some areas of the country.

The Chairman: It is a matter of policy, and I do not believe Mr. Cloutier would wish to answer that question.

Mr. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Well, all right; I made the statement, I did not ask a question. That is my opinion, anyway. I wanted to know, if these are the conditions, whether you hire according to the prevailing rate whether that is a fair rate or not?

Mr. Cloutier: This is the provision of the collective agreement that has been arrived at in collective bargaining with the representatives of those employees.

Mr. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Yes, I see. I am sorry the Minister was not here; I would have told him, too. All right; I will pass.

The Chairman: Mr. Lambert?

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): I will ask one question and this has a general bearing on what Treasury Board has responsibility for. I notice that in various departments some particular items which appeared in the appropriations—to be specific, for instance, Item 65 of the Department of Agriculture which is a large account and which has an unexpended balance—are being used as sort of departmental contingency funds to this extent, that they have large amounts and then you come along with a one dollar item and say, well, we are going to transfer over.

Mr. Cloutier: This is what the Minister referred to in his opening remarks when he pointed out a new feature of the Supplemen-

• 1105

tary Estimates. The intention of the Treasury Board in this respect was to reflect as accurately as possible the additional net requirements of the government and to this end departments were asked, rather than follow the traditional practice of putting in recommendations for supplementary estimates on all items that could not be absorbed within a given vote, to examine all of the funds available in that ministry to do two things: to re-order their priorities where that is possible so that they could go forward and through the Estimates process obtain the funds for things of very high priority, thereby letting go other plans that they may have had which, in their view, have a lower priority. This is a reflection, I suppose, of the fact that we cannot do everything at the same time. Some things are more important than others and the less important, if the funds are not available, will have to be abandoned.

The other approach in this new feature is that rather than build estimates on top of estimates, we ask departments to examine their expenditure patterns, because one must remember that these estimates were put forward many months ago and expenditure experience varies from one area to another and, to the extent that they were funds that would go unexpended, through the Estimates process to ask Parliament to transfer, in effect, the funds that they had voted under one heading to this new heading where there was an actual requirement for an expenditure.

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): But surely this is going to introduce a looseness in practice at the very beginning, because it will mean that generally the Blue Book will be a "by guess and by gosh" and we will have items in there on the same basis as this western feed grains subsidy of $21 million which is being used as a departmental milk cow because, as you will notice in the Supplementary Estimates, transfers are being made out of that $21 million...

The Chairman: Will you please give us your reference, Mr. Lambert, so that we can follow?

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): I am on page 2 of the Supplementary Estimates and then I go to page 5, Appropriation Act No. 4, Bill C-141, which is the estimate that was passed and which is the one that is being sectioned out now because there are transfers—I have not counted them, but I would rather suspect that there are at least half a dozen or perhaps eight requests or drawings on the surplus of that fund. I do not know whether this introduction of 50 one dollar items in the supplementaries is to be a pattern for the future, but I would put it to you, Mr. Cloutier, that this frankly establishes a practice—and it will grow—whereby you will simply say, well, all right, we will have an omnibus item and nobody can gainsay the Department of Agriculture officials who say they think it is going to cost $20 million this year for feed grain subsidies, but in their hearts they know it is $8 million or $9 million. Parliament will have voted and the budget will have been predicated upon these estimates and these requirements, and then they will come along some time later in the supplementaries and say, "Oh, well, we were wrong in our other things, now let us draw down from this particular item in each department".

Mr. Cloutier: Your observation, sir, would be applicable if the Treasury Board could not exert a rather large amount of control on the size of the estimates before they come to Parliament, and each request from a department is scrutinized very, very carefully by the

• 1110

Treasury Board staff and then by the Treasury Board administrators before the estimates are printed, and each department is required to substantiate every amount they request. In the particular case to which you are referring the Appropriation Acts Act provided some $21 million for the Feed Board. On the other hand, because the feed grain crops of Ontario have been larger in the current year than in several of the preceding years and the number of animals to be fed has been more than anticipated, and quite independently of the new feature that is being introduced this year that that vote would not have shown an actual expenditure of more tha than $18 million for the current year 1968-69, there would have been this amount of $3 million that would have lapsed.

The usual practice would have been for this to be left to happen and for each new requirement of the Department of Agriculture to be added to the preceding Appropriation Acts Act to the extent that all of this $3

million has been used as offset, and the total of the supplementary estimates which are now before the Committee would have been $3 million higher. So, to that extent the net additional requirement of the government for cast would have been overstated and, as the Minister has said on previous occasions in the House and I think has repeated this morning, the objective towards which we are working in the Treasury Board is to present as accurate estimates as possible.

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): I will not use the word "conspiracy", I think that is too strong, but I think as a statement of policy, since this is a change of policy with regard to that, obviously, it will meet with Treasury Board approval. Treasury Board will have to be part of this. I agree with what you are saying, that we are trying to arrive at a net position, but on the other hand no doubt the departmental officials can justify it to Treasury Board—as they were able to do in the $21 million forecast for freight assistance on feed grain—and perhaps the Treasury Board would be hard put not to agree with it, but if there is any short-fall in expenditure the Department can turn around and say, "We have this money, let us go and spend it". What I am concerned about, Mr. Cloutier, is that they come with this Blue Book to Parliament. This is not a deal between departments and Treasury Board, this is a deal between the government and Parliament, and I insist that Parliament have the primacy.

An hon. Member: We will have this again.

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): This is not right. I suggest to you there is a way here.

Mr. Cloutier: Let me make this observation. This supplementary estimate is also before Parliament.

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): I know.

Mr. Cloutier: Let me make this observation. This supplementary estimate is also before Parliament.

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): I know.

Mr. Cloutier: And the supplementary estimates that are now before Parliament request Parliamentary authority for those expenditures.

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): I do not know, perhaps I am setting up a straw man here to give it a kick, but it seems to me there is a danger that a practice will grow up of having one fairly loose vote in each department and the department will deliberately underexpend in that respect. Every program they put forward to Treasury Board can be justified. However, there are different priorities. I am not saying they are going to come up with weekend sprees, but they are going to come up with something and they will make a good case, and the crunch will be applied by saying, "Yes, we have the money. It has already been voted in the Appropriation Acts Act and therefore it will be that much easier to get your consent".

• 1115

Mr. Cloutier: Let me explain...

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): I have participated in this sort of thinking.

Mr. Cloutier: Let me assure you that in the preparation of these supplementary estimates there were many items that were put forward by departments for expenditure and as you say they were offering an offset from another vote, and they were turned down by the Treasury Board.

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): We have not seen a decline in expenditures, though. That is a comment I should make to your Minister, not to you, but we have seen an actual increase in expenditures...

Mr. Cloutier: Let me make this observation, which I can make simply on the basis of the figures that are in the public record. Let us look at the experience on supplementary estimates in the last several years. For instance, in the course of the year 1967-68, there were supplementary estimates totalling $392 million. The year before that the total was $844 million. The total supplementary estimates for this year are on the order of $152 million, out of which $105 million is accounted for by a really exceptional circumstance—the introduction of bargaining—whereas, as I recall it, there were none or practically non for 1967-68 in respect to salaries. So, in one year in supplementary estimates, we have moved from $392 million to something like $47 million.

This is the result of two factors. One, as the Minister indicated earlier, is the practice of not keeping several items for supplementary estimates. We deal with them in the final supplementaries and it was simply to that extent, and to the extent that when the main estimates were being prepared that in effect we put things in the back of our minds but did not put them in the Blue Book, and there-

fore the Blue Book was not as complete and as informative as it should have been. So, one of the influences is getting the things into the main estimates as soon as possible and in as complete and accurate a manner as possible. The other thing is simply that there has been, as ministers have indicated in the House on a number of occasions, a period of serious restraint, and this is the other factor.

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): I will make a date with you and we will talk about this three years from now.

Mr. Cloutier: Well, sir, if you are right it will simply mean that the Treasury Board has failed to do its job.

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): We will just see what happens. Perhaps I am overly suspicious, I do not know.

The Chairman: Perhaps you are. Mr. Gillespie.

Mr. Gillespie: I am a little concerned, with respect to some of the thinking that Mr. Lambert has done, that it will cause him to impute the same sort of motives to someone else.

I would like to ask a supplementary on this question. What is the total credit in these supplementaries through the transfer of one vote to another? In other words, when we look at your figure of $152 million, this is the net figure after the transfer...

Mr. Cloutier: The total transfer is not only from one vote to another. It is also within votes because there are requirements, especially relating to grants and contributions, where items have to be listed in the estimates in accordance with the doctrine of Parliament control, so that there are instances where offsets are made within one vote so that they can be listed without having a requirement for additional funds, and this has been a practice of very long standing. The total offsets are in the neighbourhood of $48.3 million.

• 1120

Mr. Gillespie: Would it be accurate to say, in comparing the $392 million figure of last year, that the figure we should compare it with is $200 million, or something of that order?

Mr. Cloutier: Let us emphasize "of that order" because my figures do not indicate the offsets within votes, which was a practice last year.

Mr. Gillespie: Right.

Mr. Cloutier: Let me just quickly glance at these figures. Out of that $48 million there is probably one-quarter that is within votes and the rest is between votes, so we are probably talking about $40 million. So, the estimates of $192 million...

Mr. Gillespie: All right. What I am getting at is that although a year ago they were of the order of $400 million, if we were to compute them on the same basis now they would be of the order of $200 million, which is roughly one-half...

Mr. Cloutier: But if you...

Mr. Gillespie: ...and of that $200 million there is slightly over $100 million of a rather exceptional nature, so in fact there has been a very significant improvement when you compare the two years.

Mr. Cloutier: I think you can draw this inference very clearly from the figures.

Mr. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): In effect the Treasury Board is supposed to act as policeman for these other departments. Am I correct?

Mr. Cloutier: I do not think we would like to cast ourselves in that precise role. Let me put it this way. We try to make sure of the effectiveness of the proposed expenditure, and in formulating recommendations such as the staff's recommendations to the ministers we try to follow the expenditure guidelines laid down by the government. In other words, if we think this is money for old rope we say so, and we do not recommend it. If we think the expenditure proposal makes a lot of sense in terms of the objectives of the department and in terms of the objectives of the government, and if these are in keeping with the priorities of the government, we so recommend and then the Ministers decide of the basis of the evidence before them.

The Chairman: I would say, Mr. Thomson, that Mr. Henderson, the Auditor General, would be the real policeman.

Mr. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): In effect, though, when you put out a complete budget and everybody wants more money, somebody has to decide who is going to get it, and if a policy change is not in effect you are going to emphasize one more than the other. In effect, though, you do have a policing role. If the Department of Agriculture or the

Department of Transport wants more money, and there is not enough to go around, somebody has to decide.

Mr. Cloutier: That is right, and the Treasury Board does this.

Mr. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Yes, the Treasury Board does this.

Mr. Cloutier: The Treasury Board in cabinet, because in the resource allocation decisions on this $92 million the Treasury Board recommends the budget to the government.

The Chairman: While we are going through the Treasury Board estimates I wonder if, in addition to 5b, we should also examine 6b and 10b in case you have some questions to ask.

Mr. Gillespie: Which page are you referring to?

The Chairman: Are you going to stay with us for the entire time we sit?

Mr. Cloutier: I do not know.

The Chairman: Other departments are going to appear before us, but perhaps it would be a good idea if you were to be around.

Mr. Cloutier: Oh, you have called other departments?

• 1125

The Chairman: Yes, the Department of Public Works is appearing this afternoon, and perhaps it would be a good idea, Mr. Cloutier, if you were around in case some of those things crop up again. You are the most competent witness for us on those techniques.

We have at page 23 items 5b and 6b of Treasury Board estimates. Now, we discussed 5b at length, of course, can we say that 5b is completed, or do you have any more questions on 5b? All right, what about 6b then? Mr. Lambert?

> Vote 6b—To authorize the Treasury Board to delete from the accounts certain debts due, and claims by, Her Majesty, each of which is in excess of $1,000, amounting in the aggregate to $7,267,768.60 of which $1,614,636.17 represents items that have been carried in the Statement of Assets Liabilities. $1,614,637

[*Interpretation*]

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): Yes, Mr. Chairman. With regard to the National revenue, especially where we are asking to cancel some debts owed to the Crown, under the items national revenue customs and excise, and income tax. The number of debts are as follows: 265 uncollected claims by the customs and excise division and 450 income-tax debts.

Could Mr. Cloutier give us the details, because this is somewhat extraordinary. Does this exceed the claims that were written off last year? And what circumstances are these to justify a step of this nature by the government?

Mr. Cloutier: Mr. Lambert, I can answer your question in this way...

The Chairman: If you please, Mr. Cloutier. We are on page 24, where the various debts are listed to which Mr. Lambert is now drawing our attention. I think it is easier to follow the discussion if you have the right page, i.e. page 24.

Mr. Cloutier: That's right. Regarding vote 6 b), the total which must be written off under that item amounts to $7,267,768,60. Last year, 1,288 accounts were written off under the same vote, compared with 781 this year, for an overall sum of $19,067,000.

In 1966-67, there were 1574 accounts for a total of $15,134,000.

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): Just a moment, please. $15 million for the year 1966-67?

Mr. Cloutier: 1966-67.

Mr. Lambert: Fine. And $19 million for the year 1967-68?

Mr. Cloutier: Yes, $19,067,000 without mentioning cents. So, compared with the two preceding years, there is a decrease in the number of accounts and their value.

Now, to answer your question, particularly with relation to the Department of National Revenue, with reference to the vote for customs, this year, a request has been made to write off 129 accounts for a value of $725,000 because the creditor has gone bankrupt. 131 accounts for $825,000 because the individual is not in business any longer. Since, he has no more assets. One creditor was destitute, merely having an account of $1,500. One person has left Canada, he owed $3,800 and another died, leaving unpaid debts to the amount of $2,000. And then there are two accounts for $10,000. The explanation I have

concerning the latter is that the debt cannot be proven. There is probably a legal problem here.

The Chairman: Most likely a problem of assessment.

Mr. Cloutier: Probably not an assessment problem, but perhaps simply a legal problem.

The Chairman: As to whether he owes it or not.

Mr. Cloutier: Yes. With regard to income tax: 37 persons died without leaving any property or assets: $316,000; 94 disappeared and can't be traced: $283,000.

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): That's a good reason.

Mr. Cloutier: 51 are without funds: $355,-000. 35 are no longer in Canada: $366,000. 151 companies are no longer operating and have no assets: $2,053,000. 82, for a value of $540,-000, were companies that went bankrupt and had no assets, and the trustees wound up their business.

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): Now, could you tell us more or less the period of time during which a debt is to be considered as current and when it becomes a liability, i.e., it becomes...

Mr. Cloutier: It varies according to cases. If the person dies nothing can be done. I have here two cases whose debts amount to more than $200,000: one amounts to $265,000, and the other $378,000, and in both cases, the debt was established in 1959. Therefore, this means that the Department has been trying to collect these debts since 1959-60.

[*English*]

• 1130

The Chairman: Mr. Hales?

Mr. Hales: I have one or two questions. What period of years, Mr. Cloutier, does this write-off cover?

Mr. Cloutier: It varies, sir, in accordance with the reason for the write-off. If the individual has just deceased, well that is pretty clear.

Mr. Hales: I mean the over-all amount. When did we write this off the last time?

Mr. Cloutier: Oh, there is a write-off every year, sir.

Mr. Hales: What did we write off last year?

Mr. Cloutier: Last year the amount written off was $19 million, and the year before it was $15 million.

Mr. Hales: In the first group, debts due Her Majesty, these are accounts that they have decided not to put in the accounts receivable or not put them in as a charge, is that right?

Mr. Cloutier: The first group consists of items which were originally authorized as loans. They must be shown in their full value in the budgetary expenditure because they are a charge on the statement of assets and liabilities. In other words, they were taken into account in previous years, whereas the second group is made up of items which represent, for the most part, revenue foregone that was never calculated as revenue.

Mr. Hales: Then this brings up the point of why you do not make these estimates more knowledgeable for Members of Parliament and put in the word "loan". These are loans that we are writing off. All three of them are loans, are they not?

Mr. Cloutier: No. The first one, let me see. Yes, in this case I believe that they are all loans. Let me verify this.

Mr. Hales: The word "loan" does not appear there any place, and I think Members of Parliament are entitled to know that the government made loans and that these loans are not repaid. This is what we are interested in.

Mr. Cloutier: Actually, we have changed the wording in the summary here to be more explicit. If you go back to last year's supplementary estimates, we had assets to be written off and charged to expenditure. We tried to be more explicit here and said "debts". The second category was just called accounts receivable. Now we have changed the wording to say, "Claims by Her Majesty to be written off that have not been carried in the Statement of Assets and Liabilities".

Mr. Hales: So neither last year nor this year was the word "loan" included.

Mr. Cloutier: That is right.

Mr. Hales: Well, I think this might be a recommendation to improve the wording. Then the question comes up—should they have been loans in the first place? Should they not have been entered as debts payable

to the government and then handled later on as debts collectable? However, that is another issue.

This "National Revenue" is spelled out and all the numbers have been printed there. Does that include the amount that Mr. Doyle owes the Crown?

Mr. Cloutier: This would be National Revenue.

Mr. Hales: I do not think they wrote his off.

Mr. Cloutier: I would imagine that that amount would be higher than $200,000, and I asked to be given details on items over $200,000. I have no evidence before me that that particular item is included in this figure.

Mr. Hales: You asked for details on amounts over $200,000?

Mr. Cloutier: That is right.

Mr. Hales: But they did not give you any details about his.

Mr. Cloutier: That is right.

Mr. Hales: Did you ask for it?

Mr. Cloutier: Not specifically, sir.

Mr. Hales: No, but the amount. You asked for details on all...

Mr. Cloutier: On all individual accounts over $200,000.

Mr. Hales: And this is over $200,000?

Mr. Cloutier: I do not know but I would imagine that it would be, in view of your interest.

Mr. Hales: It is still owing to the Department.

Mr. Cloutier: I can only deduct that that particular account is not included in those for which write-off is requested now.

The Chairman: They do not give out the names because the information from the Department of National Revenue is rather confidential.

• 1135

Mr. Hales: The Royal Canadian Mounted Police write-off is a little over $8,000.

Mr. Cloutier: This write-off from the RCMP relates to three cases of damage to police vehicles and related medical expenses and one case of overpayment of allowances.

The Chairman: Are you through, Mr. Hales?

Mr. Hales: Yes.

Mr. Gillespie: Mr. Chairman, I would like to ask Mr. Cloutier about item (a) under loans—National Defence, $1,400,000 odd. Can you tell us the nature of this transaction?

Mr. Cloutier: Yes, sir. The item represents 50 per cent of the outstanding principal as of December 31, 1968, on the Oromocto debentures which were used to finance the municipal services at Camp Gagetown.

The Chairman: Mr. Hales knows about that.

Mr. Hales: Yes, we have studied it in the Public Accounts Committee.

The Chairman: This is known as "The Oromocto Affair".

Mr. Gillespie: What was the name again?

Mr. Cloutier: Oromocto, which is a city in New Brunswick close to Camp Gagetown. This is a rather long-standing matter, I think. The Department of National Defence made a loan to the city of Oromocto to develop its infrastructure. There were new arrangements entered into over the winter which provided a different basis for the settlement of these accounts, and one half of the loan was forgiven.

Mr. Gillespie: This is the $1.4 million?

Mr. Cloutier: That is right.

The Chairman: Was that not a recommendation of the Public Accounts Committee, Mr. Hales?

Mr. Hales: Yes, it was. It had been hanging fire for a very long time. It is the old problem of a department asking, through estimates, for money that they know will never be recouped—it will never be able to repay the loan.

The Chairman: Because of debts you would prefer the word "loan"? That is a suggestion that Mr. Cloutier could take note of.

Mr. Alkenbrack: Mr. Chairman, I have a question arising out of Mr. Hales' inquiry into this item of the "Oromocto Affair", as Mr. Cloutier has termed it. If they made a settlement writing off half of the former expenditures, does not the other part of the settle-

ment that would accrue to the federal government show as a credit somewhere else? What do you do with this money? Do you just forgive it all? Do you give it all away?

Mr. Cloutier: No. The arrangements with the city of Oromocto, as I recall them, provided that starting this year the city would receive the normal grants in lieu of taxes for

• 1140

the municipal services that the government pays to all municipalities in which it has fixed assets or buildings of one kind or another. So that was one part of the settlement. The other part is that there would be a special transitional grant, which is provided for in the 1969-70 estimates of the Department of National Defence. I must presume here, I am not absolutely certain, that with these arrangements the city of Oromocto would repay the other half of that loan.

Mr. Alkenbrack: Does it not show then somewhere else in our supplementary estimates as an account receivable, which would relieve the taxpayer of at least that much burden?

Mr. Cloutier: The balance of the loan owing would be shown in the public accounts under "accounts receivable". It would not show here in the estimates. The only part that would show in these supplementary estimates is the portion that is written off.

Mr. Alkenbrack: Is Treasury Board accountable for grants in lieu of taxes?

Mr. Cloutier: No, sir. This is a Department of Finance loan.

Mr. Alkenbrack: I had a question in that regard but it would not be in order at this time.

The Chairman: Maybe Mr. Cloutier could answer it. Put your question and he will see if he can answer it.

Mr. Alkenbrack: Why are you so generous with the town of Oromocto, to the extent of $1,405,000, when I am informed by the council of the town of Napanee that the grant in lieu of taxes for 1968 has not yet been paid in connection with our town.

Mr. Cloutier: I believe that the Department of Finance is now in the process of sending cheques to all of the municipalities who are in receipt of grants in lieu of taxes. As a matter of fact, you probably saw over the weekend in the local newspapers a letter from Mr. Benson to the Mayor of Ottawa about this, saying that a cheque was included.

Mr. Alkenbrack: Thank you.

Mr. McCutcheon: The witness explained this Royal Canadian Mounted Police item but I was not too clear. You said something about writing off as a result of accidents. Does this mean in effect that we carry our own insurance on vehicles and that type of thing—In other words we do not bother insuring?

Mr. Cloutier: That is right.

Mr. McCutcheon: Small items intrigue me. Here is one: Labour $3,107.44.

Mr. Cloutier: This represents an annuity overpayment which is not recoverable. This, I would surmise, is as a result of some error under which a larger than appropriate amount was paid out as an annuity and that overpayment cannot be recovered.

Mr. McCutcheon: And this is under the Department of Labour?

Mr. Cloutier: That is right.

Mr. McCutcheon: That of course leads me to the next one, where a man in the West is billed for $11,000 of overpayment. I believe that would be under the Department of National Defence. It was in the paper last week. Will that item appear in here next year?

The Chairman: If it cannot be collected I suppose it will be written off.

Mr. Cloutier: The department would attempt to collect this overpayment, and if after a period of several years it is found that it cannot be collected, then this would...

Mr. McCutcheon: But this is the same type of thing?

Mr. Cloutier: If the case relates to a loan that this individual got, it would be referred to.

Mr. McCutcheon: Yes, of course.

The Chairman: Yes, if it is an error.

• 1145

Mr. McCutcheon: Yes.

That is all, Mr. Chairman. Thank you.

Mr. Hales: I note under Finance (Comptroller of the Treasury) a figure of $16,405.33. What would that be for?

Mr. Cloutier: Retirements—and it would be overpayments made in error.

Mr. Hales: Overpayments made in error by the Comptroller?

Mr. Cloutier: That is right.

Mr. Hales: He is the last man in Canada that should overpay. He is in charge of the money and he should be right on the bit. In which way did he overpay?

Mr. Cloutier: I am afraid I cannot give you the answer.

Mr. Hales: Would it likely be superannuation accounts or something?

Mr. Cloutier: There are four items. I have a rather long explanation on each.

Mr. Hales: Well you may summarize it.

Mr. Cloutier: Without using names, the first one has to do with a Mrs. X. She first became employed in the public service as a postmistress in 1934 and became a contributor to the superannuation account on January 1, 1954. When the post office in which Mrs. X was employed was reduced to a subpost office status in 1959 it was felt that Mrs. X was entitled to a deferred annuity of $203.99 which became payable to her on December 7, 1959. Although Mrs. X continued to operate the subpost office until 1965 this annuity was paid to her as such service was not considered employment in the public service.

Mr. Hales: Did she quit her job and they continued to pay her?

Mr. Cloutier: No, no. This is a difference between the subpost office and the regular post office.

Mr. Hales: All right.

Mr. Cloutier: If you are working in a regular post office you are a public servant, and as a public servant you are a contributor to the superannuation account. But subpost offices are really commissioned post offices—the corner grocery store or the drug store where you are paid a commission on your revenue—and that category of employment does not carry public service employment status and therefore she is no longer a contributor to the fund. So this is what happened: When she stopped being a public servant there was an annuity payable to her and she was paid it. It was $203.99 and it became payable in 1969.

In August 1963 departmental solicitors stated that in their opinion persons still engaged were employed in the public service, and since Mrs. X had full charge of the post office in 1959 she remained continuously employed in the public service and therefore was not entitled to receive an allowance until she finally retired in 1965. The allowance was overpaid during this period in an amount of $1,091. Since the period of service from August 10, 1959 until April 14, 1965, during which Mrs. X was operating the subpost office, was not considered employment in the public service the proposal is to recommend the deletion of the outstanding overpayment of the allowances to Mrs. X.

Mr. Hales: Then she was overpaid for a period of six years...

Mr. Cloutier: That is right.

Mr. Hales: ...by the Comptroller of Canada. This means that the records in that Department must not be kept very well. There is some trouble there about test auditing these accounts.

Mr. Cloutier: There was a legal problem here as to whether or not she was an employee of the public service.

Mr. Hales: But it does not take six years to find that out.

Mr. Murphy: I would just like to ask the witness if it is fair to say that all of the amounts listed under (b) are payments which have been made as a result of mistakes?

Mr. Cloutier: Oh no. A large proportion of them come from the Department of National Revenue (Customs and Excise) and the Department of National Revenue (Taxation) which are really assessments that cannot be collected.

Mr. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Income tax.

Mr. Cloutier: That is right.

• 1150

Mr. Gillespie: On a point of procedure, Mr. Chairman, is it your intention to have the ministers of the various departments appear before this Committee?

The Chairman: Not unless they are required. Mr. Cloutier will be at our disposal this week because Treasury Board are the ones who work out those estimates. In some cases we will have the ministers. This afternoon we are having the Department of Public Works. If you insist on having a particular minister we will make arrangements if possible to have him heard here as we have all the departments to deal with anyway.

Mr. Gillespie: Have you any particular plan in mind as to how we are going to go through the various departments?

The Chairman: No, there is no definite plan but Mr. Cloutier might be of help in that.

Mr. Cloutier: Mr. Chairman, I have some notes before me which I would be quite prepared and very happy to give to the members of the Committee as we go through the supplementary estimates, perhaps in alphabetical order starting with the Department of Agriculture. If I can answer all your questions, fine; if not you may wish to ask officials to come in. Perhaps that would be a way of dealing with the procedure.

The Chairman: Would it be agreeable that we start with the Department of Agriculture and carry on in the same order as in these estimates? Mr. Cloutier would give all the answers that he can give and for the other answers that he would not be in a position to provide we would make arrangements to have someone from the department, either the minister himself or the deputy minister or officials.

Mr. McCutcheon: I have a supplementary question, Mr. Chairman. I do not wish to delay the Committee but, Mr. Cloutier, do I understand that Mr. X got $1,380?

Mr. Cloutier: $1,091.

Mr. McCutcheon: Well, now, there is $16,000 in that item. You do not need to spell them out, but what is the biggest one?

Mr. Cloutier: The biggest one is $11,000, and it is Mr. Y...

Mr. McCutcheon: All right. I never did trust him.

Mr. Cloutier: ...who ceased employment in the Public Service on January 10, 1947—please forgive if I read from my notes, but I simply do not remember it.

> Mr. Y. ceased employment in the Public Service in January, 1947 and was granted an annual allowance of $3,024 payable from that date. On January 10, 1947 Mr. Y was engaged as a shipping master pursuant to Section 602(1) of the Canadian Shipping Act on a fees of office basis. Mr. Y was so engaged until July 31, 1947 and throughout the period continued to receive his annual allowance. Mr. Y died on October 29, 1959.
>
> During the period Mr. Y served as a shipping master it was not known whether or not persons engaged on a fees of office basis were considered to be employed in the Public Service for the purposes of the Superannuation Act or the Civil Service Superannuation Act. On January 15, 1960 legal advice was received to the effect that those persons are indeed considered to be employed in the Public Service. The Public Service Superannuation Act was amended in July, 1960 to, among other things, exclude those people from those required to contribute.

In other words, in 1960 there was an amendment that said that if you are a shipping master you are not subject to contributions but conversely before that amendment you were.

> However, this amendment did not alter the effect of Section 16 of the Public Service Superannuation Act and similar provisions in the Civil Service Superannuation Act imposing limits of the amount of combined annuity and salary a retired employee who was re-employed in the Public Service might earn. It was eventually established that Mr. Y's annuity during the period of re-employment was overpaid in the amount of $11,147.

This is the way this one came up.

• 1155

Mr. Hales: That is for a period of 10 years, I think, from 1947 to 1957 and he died in 1959; so here is another case where it took 10 years to get a ruling on whether or not he should have been paid. Is that right?

Mr. Cloutier: The legal interpretation at that point was that shipping masters were not under the...

Mr. Hales: But it took 10 years to get this legal interpretation.

Mr. Cloutier: As I understand it, sir, it was not a question during those 10 years.

Mr. Hales: But it should have been a question.

Mr. Cloutier: Well, the legal interpretation that was in effect indicated that the man was not a public servant since he was on a fees for service basis.

Mr. Hales: So then, when they did get the interpretation...

Mr. Cloutier: Then, of course, they had to go back and re-open the account and examine how this interpretation related to it.

Mr. Hales: Was there more than one case involved in this ruling?

Mr. Cloutier: I do not think so, sir.

The Chairman: Would not those things be pointed out in the Auditor General's report that you are studying now?

Mr. Hales: Well, he will likely pick this up along the way...

The Chairman: This should be picked up by the Auditor General, I think.

Mr. Cloutier: They may well have been picked up in the past and this is writing off an uncollectable debt that the Auditor General might have brought forward.

Mr. Hales: What are your own views on this as a member of Treasury Board? There seems to be room for criticism.

Mr. Cloutier: I would agree that there is a considerable amount of room for improvement. On the other hand I would add that the Superannuation Act is possibly one of the most complicated pieces of legislation that I have ever seen. It is extremely complicated. There have been major amendments to the Superannuation Act on two occasions in the last 15 years and the situation is improving but the number of individual cases that have to be dealt with really defy imagination. Our problem comes down to the definition of what is a public servant. We have dealt here with two cases: shipping masters, who operate on a fees for service basis and a postmistress in a sub-post office, who was paid on a commission basis. At what point do you become an employee for superannuation purposes when you do not draw a regular salary and you are paid on a fees for services basis?

Mr. Hales: I think we should come back to this point, though, that it should not take 10 years to settle these kinds of disputes or arguments and make rulings. Of all departments of government, that is the one where they certainly should be on their toes and checking into these things. Comptroller of the Treasury of Canada—that is the worst place for it to happen.

Mr. Cloutier: Mr. Hales, I do not know where the error happened in this case.

Mr. Hales: It happened, though.

Mr. Cloutier: Well, at what point does the legal interpretation come in? My understanding of these two cases is that during the period of employment of these two persons on a fees for services basis and a commission basis, the legal interpretation of the statute was to the effect that these persons were not

• 1200

employees and it is only when the legal interpretation changed that the departments then went back to their accounts and said, "Well, how does this legal opinion relate to these accounts?"

Mr. Hales: In the Department of Finance is there a legal department under the Comptroller's division? He must have a legal department.

Mr. Cloutier: Oh, yes. Most departments are serviced by the Department of...

Mr. Hales: Yes, but did he have his own legal officers right in that office?

Mr. Cloutier: I believe he has one.

Mr. Hales: Then, at what point was this legal interpretation made? It is apparently not until the man quit the job.

Mr. Cloutier: I would suspect in view of the timing here that these legal interpretations were not make in relation to those individual employments, but were made in relation to a more general examination of the superannuation provisions.

Mr. Hales: The reason I ask some of these questions is that the Auditor General has brought to the attention of the Public Accounts Committee now for six or eight years that the Superannuation Branch is not keeping good records. They are not being kept according to modern systems and he has recommended every year in his report to the House that this be improved. Apparently it has not been improved too much from what we are being told now and I think it is time this

department was looked into and modernized. An expert from an outside insurance company should be called in to show them how records are kept up to date in insurance companies, and so on, that have these superannuation accounts. I hope this comes about.

Mr. Cloutier: If I may be permitted an observation here, sir, you are quite right that the Auditor General made his first observations on the superannuation operation back in 1961 or 1962. At that point, there was a very considerable examination of the Superannuation Branch, and it was placed under the administrative control of the Comptroller of the Treasury. Considerable improvements have taken place. I think the Auditor General will agree that the records from then on have been accurate.

The problem relates really to previous years when the employment records of thousands of employees were not as complete as they should have been. The job is really one of eating into your backlog and correcting it, and this, of course, cannot be done overnight.

The Chairman: Mr. Thomson?

Mr. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Mr. Chairman, did the Crown lay any charges in relation to the $7 million, or so, or did it take any legal action in any of these cases in an attempt to get some of this back?

Mr. Cloutier: I do not know as a fact, but the usual practice of departments in collecting accounts is to exhaust every possible approach before they recommend a write-off.

Mr. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): It is possible there were some, then?

Mr. Cloutier: Yes; I would be extremely surprised if there was not a lot of it.

Mr. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Thank you.

The Chairman: Are there any further questions for Mr. Cloutier on the Treasury Board, as represented by Votes 5b, 6b and 10b?

Items 5b, 6b, and 10b agreed to.

This completes the Supplementary Estimates (B) for the Treasury Board. We can now start with Agriculture, and some questions have already been asked on those items that were shifted to other votes; so this is Vote 10b, Agriculture.

Item 10b agreed to.

• 1205

On item 15b: Agriculture

Production and Marketing Administration

Vote 15b—Administration, Operation and Maintenance, including the administration of the Agricultural Stabilization Act and contributions to assist in the marketing of agricultural products, subject to the approval of Treasury Board—To authorize the transfer of $5,000 from Agriculture Vote 20, $102,600 from Agriculture Vote 45, and $83,398 from Agriculture Vote 65, Appropriation Act No. 4, 1968 for the purposes of this Vote—$1.

Prairie Farm Assistance Act Administration

Casuals and Others—$77,000

Travelling and Removal Expenses—$114,000

Total—$191,000

Less: Funds available in Agriculture Votes 20, 45 and 65 of the Revised Estimates, 1968-69—$190,999

Mr. Hales: Mr. Chairman, these are all $1 votes on this and the next page. I think the Committee is entitled to an explanation of what a $1...

The Chairman: We have already had that explanation, Mr. Hales. You were not here. We had a lengthy discussion on those items.

Mr. Hales: All right.

Item 15b agreed to.

On Item 17b: Agriculture

Vote 17b—Grants, Contributions and Subsidies as detailed in the Estimates—To authorize the transfer of $1,750,000 from Agriculture Vote 65, Appropriation Act No. 4, 1968 for the purposes of this Vote—$1.

Estimated amount to recoup the agricultural commodities stabilization account to cover the net operating loss of the agricultural stabilization board as at March 31, 1969—$902,000

Compensation, in accordance with terms and conditions prescribed by the minister of agriculture, to eligible sugar beet producers in Ontario on the basis of $60.00 for each acre planted in 1967 —$1,000,000

Total—$1,902,000

Less: Funds available in Agriculture Vote 65 ($1,750,000) and within this Vote ($151,999) of the Revised Estimates, 1968-69—$1,901,999

Mr. McCutcheon: Under that, Mr. Cloutier, we have two items. One I understand perfectly, which should have been paid months and months ago because Mr. Greene announced it 10 days before te election in 1968. But what does this $902,000 cover?

Mr. Cloutier: This is the item about which Mr. Lambert was questioning Mr. Drury earlier. This is the balance of the agricultural commodity stabilization account. In past years, as you may remember Mr. Lambert saying, there were items that were usually final supplementary items which were not in this Supplementary Estimates (B). I think the last year this was done the agricultural stabilization account in the main estimates was shown as an item of $100 million, realizing full well that in the final supplementaries a large amount would have to be added to recoup the losses from the account. Again I state that the amount that was provided in that last year was something like $39 million in the final supplementaries.

In the next year, 1967-68, there was a concerted effort to put in the main estimates as realistic as possible an estimate of the total requirement for the year. This was continued for the current year, and this amount of $902,000 provides for the loss on the purchase and sales program, and for deficiency payments in respect of dairy products, potatoes, wool and sugar beets. Provision, as I indicated, was made in the main estimates but not quite enough; so this is to balance the account to the latest estimates.

Mr. McCutcheon: And it goes in those four headings that you mentioned.

Mr. Cloutier: That is right.

Mr. McCutcheon: That was the reason behind it?

Mr. Cloutier: That is right.

Mr. McCutcheon: I may not be asking the right person, but to your knowledge has this $1 million been paid?

Mr. Cloutier: To my knowledge, sir, it has not been paid. Partial payment has been made from the advance account established by Parliament for the purpose. The agricultural commodity stabilization account is an account in the Revolving Fund and this is only recouping for the losses. No sugar beet can be made until there is authority from Parliament.

Mr. McCutcheon: Of course.

Mr. Cloutier: It will be paid as soon as the Appropriation Act completing these supplementaries is passed.

Item 17b agreed to.

On Item 20b:

AGRICULTURE

Animal and Animal Products

Vote 20b—Administration, Operation and Maintenance—To authorize the transfer of $61,999 from Agriculture Vote 65, Appropriation Act No. 4, 1968 for the purposes of this Vote—$1.00

Livestock division—Supervision race track betting

Professional and Special Services—$62,000

Less: Funds available in Agriculture Vote 65 of the Revised Estimates, 1968-69 —$61,199—$1.00

Mr. McCutcheon: Supervision of Race Track Betting: What is involved here? I thought it was the RCMP who came in and looked at those parimutuel machines?

Mr. Cloutier: They do that on behalf of the Department of Agriculture. The moneys are voted in Agriculture, but they are transferred to the RCMP who show them as revenue.

Mr. McCutcheon: Thank you.

• 1210

Items 20b, 25b and 30b agreed to.

On Item 35b: Agriculture.

Vote 35b—Grants, Contributions and Subsidies as detailled in the Estimates—To authorize the transfer of $103,000 from Agriculture Vote 1 and $425,200 from Agriculture Vote 65, Appropriation Act No. 4, 1968 for the purposes of this Vote, and to provide a further amount of —$811,800

Production and Marketing (Continued).

Plant products division—contribution to Quebec, in accordance with terms and conditions prescribed by the minister of Agriculture, of fifty per cent of the ad-

ministrative expenses incurred by Quebec and an amount equal to twenty-five per cent of the premiums paid under an experimental crop insurance program during the period from July 6, 1967 to March 31, 1969—$1,200,000

Plant Protection Division—compensation, as approved by the Governor in Council, to growers of horticultural crops in the amounts determined by the Minister of Agriculture to be the losses incurred in the production and marketing of horticultural crops as a result of action taken under the destructive insect and pest act to combat the golden nematode—$180,000; —$1,380,000

Less: Funds available in Votes 1 and 65 ($528,200) and within this Vote ($40,000) of the Revised Estimates, 1968-69—$568,-200;—$811,800

Mr. Hales: I have one question there, Mr. Chairman, relative to Production and Marketing, Plant Products Division, at the top of page 4. The $1.2 million, as I understand it, is money paid to the province of Quebec for crop insurance program. Why would not the other provinces be included here?

Mr. Cloutier: This is a statutory item in the main estimates under the Crop Insurance Act. The agreement under that Act has not been completed with the province of Quebec.

A different agreement has been entered into with the province of Quebec to achieve the purposes of the Act, and because the payment cannot be authorized under the statutory item an equivalent of $1.2 million will lapse in the statutory vote. This provides the authority to make the payment to the province of Quebec.

Mr. Hales: The crop insurance program has been going for how many years in the rest of Canada?

Mr. Cloutier: I am afraid I cannot give you that information, sir.

Mr. Hales: It must be five years?

An hon. Member: At least five years, I think.

Mr. Hales: And the province of Quebec has not come under the crop insurance program with the other provinces?

Mr. Cloutier: Not under the Crop Insurance Act.

Mr. Hales: It has been going for perhaps four or five years and they have not yet made a decision?

Mr. Cloutier: My understanding is that in the main estimates for next year the expectation is that they will be under the over-all program. I could verify that. It is continued, sir, in 1969-70. I am mistaken.

Mr. Gillespie: Mr. Chairman, could Mr. Cloutier tell us the reason for the large increase to $811,000?

Mr. Cloutier: In vote 35b?

Mr. Gillespie: Yes?

Mr. Cloutier: These are really two items—Quebec, $1.2 million, and the other for $180,-000, which is compensation for damage to crop resulting from action taken to combat golden nematode in the Vancouver Island.

Mr. Gillespie: Combat what?

Mr. Cloutier: Golden nematode.

Mr. Gillespie: What is that?

Mr. Cloutier: It is a disease of potatoes and other plants. The program called for fumigating the crop lands of several potato farmers and specialty flower growers.

It has been determined that on some cases this action has resulted in a reduction in the yield and the saleability of the crop and the amount requested here is in compensation for the effect of that eradication program.

The total moneys required are $1,380,000. There are offsets to the extent of $568,200, thereby leaving a net new requirement of $811,800.

• 1215

Mr. McCutcheon: Under A there is a point at which it says that this is an experimental thing from July 6, 1967 to March 31, 1969. This is almost a two-year period, and you say it is appearing in the new estimates again. What is the amount? How does it compare?

Mr. Cloutier: The amount in the new estimates is $1.8 million.

Mr. McCutcheon: That would be for a one year period?

Mr. Cloutier: That is right, sir.

Mr. McCutcheon: In other words, the people are obviously taking greater advantage of

this program down there. Is that the reason for it?

Mr. Cloutier: I expect so, sir.

Mr. McCutcheon: Thank you.

Mr. Hales: My question, Mr. Chairman, was along the same lines. Parliament does not like supplementary estimates any more than do the department heads who have to put them in. I think this is a fair observation. I am wondering why this $1.2 million did not appear in the Agriculture estimates of last year and why had to appear in the supplementaires? Surely to goodness the Department knew this program was going on and it should have been in their regular estimates.

Mr. Cloutier: It did appear in last year's estimates, sir, as a statutory item at page 22 under the title, "Contributions to the Provinces under the Crop Insurance Act $4,700,-000". Of that $4.7 million, $1.2 million will not be spent under this heading because the contribution to Quebec will not be made under the Crop Insurance Act, but under a separate agreement with the province; hence the requirement for an item in the supplementary estimates authorizing that payment.

Mr. Hales: Then why not have another heading under the regular estimates, a separate heading, to show this amount in the regular estimates?

Mr. Cloutier: At the time that the 1968-69 estimates were prepared, it was expected that agreement would be reached with Quebec so that the payments could be made under the regular heading.

Mr. Hales: How many years has this appeared?

Mr. Cloutier: This is the first year. No payments have been made and no payments would be made to Quebec in relation to nay period prior to July 6, 1967.

Mr. Hales: As a member of the Treasury Departmen, would you not have thought this should have been in the regular estimates rather than appearing in the supplements?

Mr. Cloutier: At the time the main estimates were prepared last summer, the revised main estimates for 1968-69, it was expected that Quebec would come under the provisions of statutory contributions and the amount printed in the main estimates provided for that payment to Quebec.

Mr. Hales: It is in the $4.7 million.

Mr. Cloutier: It is in the $4.7 million. Expenditures under this item will only be $3.5 million because the amount payable to Quebec will be provided under this new item.

The Chairman: Mr. Murphy.

Mr. Murphy: Where do we get the credit of the $1.2 million against the $4.7 million? Does that show up anywhere?

Mr. Cloutier: No, that is not shown here because statutory items do not need to be voted annually by Parliament. They are expenditures authorized by legislation. They are shown in the main estimates Blue Book just for the sake of completeness, so that you will have in one book all of the elements contributing to the total budgetary expenditures, both voted and statutory.

Mr. Murphy: I am brand new at this game, but I would like to know what happens to that extra $1.2 million.

Mr. Cloutier: It just does not get spent; not under the previous heading.

The Chairman: Mr. Alkenbrack.

Mr. Alkenbrack: Was Quebec not included in the original statutory bill?

• 1220

Mr. Cloutier: The original statutory bill would have provided for coverage to all provinces, but Quebec chose not to come in. Then when it chose to avail itself of crop insurance, the agreement was such that it was not fully covered by the legislation; hence the need to have a separate item in the estimates.

The Chairman: Mr. Lambert.

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): To reply to Mr. Murphy, you do not spend it under the statutory item; therefore, you must provide for it under a budgetary item. This is usually how it works out. If you have your Blue Books before you, as I have here, you will see that the revised Blue Book at page 22 has that $4.7 million and there will be a shortfall and it will appear in the next public accounts.

Mr. Murphy: Yes.

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): The next public accounts will show that $1.2 million was not spent under that particular item. So they have come forward with $1.2 million

under a budgetary as an opting out proposition, really.

The Chairman: Does Item 35b carry?

Item 35b agreed to.

The Chairman: Item 45b—Health of Animals.

Health of Animals

Vote 45b—Grants, Contributions and Subsidies as detailed in the Estimates 1

Contributions to the provinces, in accordance with regulations of the Governor in Council, of amounts not exceeding two-fifths of the amounts paid by the provinces to owners of animals that have died as a result of rabies $35,000

Less: Funds available in the Revised Estimates, 1968-69, $34,999

Total, A—Department $811,807

The Chairman: Mr. Hales.

Mr. Hales: I just have one short question. Mr. Cloutier, is there any place where the public or anyone else who is interested can see or find the names and addresses of people who have been paid under the Health of Animals legislation?

Mr. Cloutier: Those who have received money?

Mr. Hales: Yes, those who received the money.

Mr. Cloutier: I do not know, sir. I doubt that public accounts would have that list.

Mr. Hales: No, it is not in there.

Mr. Cloutier: In that case, I would guess that it is not in the public domain.

Mr. Hales: You would have to call the Department of Agriculture and they would have it.

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): No, what you would do is to put a question on the order paper. There have been any number of reports to this extent in the past where individual farmers are listed as having received so much for the compensation of their flocks, particularly sheep that have had scrapie. Personally, I think it is invidious to point out that an individual farmer was paid so much for his...

Mr. Hales: What do you mean by invidious—unnecessary?

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): Because of his position in the community.

Mr. Hales: Well, if the public want to know, there should be some source from which they can get the information.

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): Yes, but it is my feeling that oftentimes it is out of idle curiosity.

Mr. Hales: Not necessarily.

The Chairman: Well, anyway, Mr. Hales, your know now that you can put your question on the order paper.

Does Item 45b carry?

Item 45b agreed to.

The Chairman: Item 65b—Canadian Livestock Feed Board.

C-CANADIAN LIVESTOCK FEED BOARD

Vote 65b—Freight assistance on Western Feed Grains—To extend the purposes of Agriculture Vote 65, Appropriation Act No. 4, 1968 to include freight assistance for feed grains from other regions in accordance with terms and conditions prescribed by the Governor in Council and to ratify such payments made during the fiscal year 1967-68 in the amount of $99,288—1

Mr. McCutcheon: This is another of those $1 items and yet the only thing that is referred here is $99,288.

Mr. Cloutier: The problem here is that there is inconsistency between the Livestock Feed Assistance Act, which provides for freight assistance to grains moved to British Columbia and to Eastern Canada, and the wording of the vote as it appeared in the 1968-69 estimates. The wording of the item in the estimates of 1968-69 was "Freight Assistance on Western Feed Grains". In point of fact, the Act allows Ontario feed grains to be moved to points East, but the wording as it existed in the 1968-69 estimates restricted that movement. The purpose of this item is really to regularize the situation and to remove the restriction that was placed in the earlier estimates.

The Chairman: Mr. Thomson.

Mr. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Are you saying that, in effect, this $99,000 was used to send grain East from Ontario?

Mr. Cloutier: Yes, sir.

Mr. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): That one, sir?

Mr. Cloutier: No, the difference.

Mr. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Oh, the difference.

The Chairman: Mr. Lambert.

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): Mr. Chairman, I would draw to Mr. Cloutier's attention, although he obviously knows this better than I do, that at page 32 of the 1970 Blue Book, Item 65 will be for $21,550,000. In the revised estimates for the current year, this was $21 million. As I indicated, by reason of the supplementary estimates and the $1 items authorizing transfers, this was the super milk cow for the Department of Agriculture in that it was an underspent item and it was from that item that they drew their funds for these various other things. I suggested to you that this might be a dangerous practice in the future and already we see that the blessed item is going up by half a million dollars, which confirms my suspicions that it may become a really productive milk cow for the Department.

Mr. Cloutier: If I might correct the records, Mr. Lambert, this is going down by $50,000.

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): Oh, yes, I am sorry; I am breaking in some new glasses. It is $21,600,000. All right, it has not been increased.

The Chairman: Mr. McCutcheon.

Mr. McCutcheon: I just want to be on record here. Is there anything other than $99,288 used for Ontario freight assistance?

Mr. Cloutier: No.

Mr. McCutcheon: Out of $21 million?

Mr. Cloutier: Oh, no, there was more, but the Appropriation Act that will ratify the supplementary estimates will be back-dated, by the text of the appropriation, to April 1, 1968. That will take care of two transactions, I think, in relation to Ontario grains shipped East. This $99,000 is labelled in here as a transaction in 1967-68.

Mr. McCutcheon: Yes.

Mr. Cloutier: In 1968-69 there were, I think, two transactions amounting to something like $180,000 of non-Western grains shipped to points East.

Mr. McCutcheon: My, I wish you were giving that information at the Chateau today to the corn committee examining the cost of transport for Western Ontario corn to the east.

Mr. Cloutier: As a matter of fact, I think that one of these payments involved corn, but I am not sure.

Mr. McCutcheon: Well, I should think it would.

[*Interpretation*]

The Chairman: Mr. Noël?

Mr. Noël: Mr. Chairman, I would like you to explain the numbers on the right, in the title column. Some are in heavy characters, others in lighter characters: 13, for instance; 10...

Mr. Cloutier: What page is this?

The Chairman: Yes, what page?

Mr. Noël: Page 4. Please explain this to us.

The Chairman: What numbers do you wish to have explained?

Mr. Noël: Well, take for instance: In heavy characters. There is 10, 7, then, above, in the preceding vote, 45 (b), there is a small 13, in...

The Chairman: It is in lighter characters.

Mr. Noël: Lighter characters. This probably refers to the preceding vote.

Mr. Cloutier: Fine. You are referring to the figures in parentheses.

Mr. Noël: Yes, the figures in parentheses.

Mr. Cloutier: This only refers to expenditures. The integral text of the vote which appears in the Appropriation Act is printed in heavy characters. The remainder are just explanations. So, the heavy characters is just to make it easier to establish a relationship between the Supplementary Estimates Report and the Appropriation Act.

The Chairman: I believe, Mr. Noël, that in accounting terms, these would be appendices to the main statement in order to provide the necessary explanations.

Mr. Noël: It is the Aprropriation Act, isn't it.

Mr. Cloutier: It is the Act; that is it.

Mr. Noël: Very well, thank you.

The Chairman: All right?

[*English*]

Mr. Gillespie: Is it a form of cross reference to the Expropriation Act?

Mr. Cloutier: To the Appropriation Act?

Mr. Gillespie: To the Appropriation Act; what does the figure 10 in brackets mean?

Mr. Cloutier: This is just a classification of expenditure by object, and if you go back to this thing, it says that 10 is included in the tenth column.

Mr. Gillespie: I see.

Mr. Chairman: Gentlemen, I wish to thank you very much this afternoon, especially for staying for three hours. This afternoon we will start at page 5, Communications.

Mr. Cloutier will be available, I suppose, and Mr. Hoose also. We will start with those departments this afternoon at 3.00 p.m. I wish to thank you very much.

Item 65 agreed to.

AFTERNOON SITTING

• 1536

The Chairman: Gentlemen, I see we have members of all parties so I suppose we can proceed, Mr. Lambert, if you agree.

We were on page 5 of the Supplementary Estimates (B), 1968-69, COMMUNICATIONS, A-Department, Vote 10b, $1.00.

Mr. Robinson: The question, Mr. Chairman, is does this mean again that we are taking the money from somewhere?

Mr. Cloutier: This is available from the Administration vote.

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): How is it you feel you can take money that was really for salaries, and that is what Vote 1 is primarily? There are a few other things that go in there, travel and so on. Your are going take some $80,000 out of Vote 1 and put it into a deal between the government and CN Telex in the Northwest Territories.

Mr. Cloutier: This is not a deal between the government and CN Telex. This is a continuing arrangement. There is an agreement between the CNR and the...

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): I will substitute the word "agreement" for "deal".

Mr. Cloutier: Yes, but this is not a new thing. This is what I want to get across. It is an arrangement under which the Crown pays to the company the difference between the revenues and the expenses arising from the operation and maintenance of certain telecommunication services in the North.

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): In other words this is a subsidy for the operations in the CN Telex system.

Mr. Cloutier: That is right.

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): Or communications system in the Northwest Territories.

Mr. Cloutier: That is right. The funds that are being offset are not in the Salaries item.

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): Well where are they coming from then? There is $80,000 out of Vote 1.

Mr. Cloutier: From the other objects in Vote 1. Vote 1, you see, totals $8 million and the salaries are $5.3 million. There may be some Salaries money relating to lower than expected recruiting rates. I think if I may interpret your question, is there some overlap between the Contingencies vote and this offset? The answer here is that there is not.

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): Well, Mr. Cloutier, with the greatest respect, looking at Item 1 here, this is administration. It is Administration operation and maintenance, including administration of the Radio Act, and so forth. But how on earth can we justify that? I realize that there is this undertaking

• 1540

between the government and the CNR, but I find it extremely difficult to say that this is the right way to handle it. I would much rather the presentation of the estimates come out forthrightly and have a short form at expenditures on Item 1 and return it to the pot and come in with a straightforward estimate of $107,999 for the CN Telex operation. This used to be the thing, did it not? Why the sophistication of the one dollar transfer?

Mr. Cloutier: As the Minister tried to indicate this morning—the intention of the Sup-

plementary Estimates is to indicate the additional net requirements of the government, and the practice has been followed for many years that moneys provided in Vote x, for instance, that would not be required in full for the given plans that the department had at the beginning of the year could be financed under the authority of that vote.

For instance, a new grant would be financed by the moneys that would otherwise lapse in that vote. The new feature this year is really not all that different. It is offsetting a lapse in one vote to a new requirement in another vote. It is quite forthright in presentation, because the detail under the vote wording indicates what the requirement is for and it indicates where the offset comes from.

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): My point is that it is not up to people who are asserting the old system to defend it; it is up to those who propose a change to justify the change for something better and this is why I probe.

Mr. Cloutier: In terms of the figures that were mentioned this morning, the total of the Supplementary Estimates on the budgetary side that are before the Committee adds up to $152 million. This is $152 million of new funds over and above those that already have been appropriated that is required and the government, in effect, is saying that this is the requirement for $152 million of new funds. Now, if the old practice had been followed the indicated amount would have been $190 million or thereabouts, while in point of fact there is not a net additional requirement for new funds.

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): But there is a requirement for approval of a new expenditure of $190 million.

Mr. Cloutier: That is right, and this is why the presentation indicates very clearly the nature and the amount of the new expenditure.

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): It depends where you put the accent.

Mr. Cloutier: The accent is being placed here on the total budgetary estimates for the year.

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): On the requirement, not on the total expenditures.

Mr. Cloutier: The total expenditures are shown in the detail.

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): Thank you.

The Chairman: Shall Vote 10 b carry? Mr. Robinson.

Mr. Robinson: Mr. Chairman, I just have one question on this first. It is possibly a question of clarification as much as anything. Do you also show the program that is not carried out as a result of the transfer of funds?

Mr. Cloutier: This is not necessarily a program. In this case it probably comes from a provision for travel or a provision for professional services.

Mr. Robinson: But should we not have some indication as to where this comes from? You indicated earlier in reply to a question from Mr. Lambert, I think, that it did not have anything to do with salaries. It would seem to me that if you took $80,000 out of a budget that it should affect salaries in some way, that you would require less staff time in order to carry out your program, or unless you can pinpoint the $80,000 as being for a specific piece of equipment or something of this nature, but we have no indication here what has been cut out of your program as a result of this transfer of funds.

Mr. Cloutier: That point is very well taken, sir. The presentation is deficient in that respect.

Mr. Robinson: Does the same thing apply to all the transfers of funds from one area to another? We have no indication what part of the program is being cut out or if it applies to equipment, or what it applies to.

• 1545

Mr. Cloutier: No, I have no indication of that.

Mr. Robinson: Could we not get this kind of information?

Mr. Cloutier: I think that we would have to go back to the Department to get this information, sir. I am not sure that we have the details involved in this.

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): Mr. Cloutier, I think you have them in some cases.

An hon. Member: Agriculture 65.

Mr. Cloutier: This was an easy case because this was a lump figure for one purpose, but if you go back to Vote 1 you will find under

Communications at page 45 of the 1968-69 Revised Estimates the following:

> Vote 1—Administration, Operation and Maintenance including the administration of the Radio Act...

and so on. You will find the detail in terms of Salaries and Wages, Overtime, Allowances, Pensions, Travelling, and so on. I am not in a position to tell you where in particular those funds are lapsing.

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): I notice there is Acquisition of Furniture, and Furnishings. Perhaps they did not furnish some new offices, is that it?

Mr. Cloutier: This could be some of that.

The Chairman: Mr. Thomson.

Mr. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Mr. Chairman, I do not object to the method of doing this, but when it is done in future I wonder if there could not be some clarification in connection with Mr. Robinson's suggestions. What was cut back? We know in one case but it would not take much to..

Mr. Cloutier: I think that suggestion is very well taken and I will make a follow-through on that for next year, sir.

Mr. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Very good.

Mr. Cloutier: I think it is only consistent with what we are proposing.

Mr. Thomson: Yes.

Mr. Robinson: Mr. Chairman, I know that we are concerned with budgets on sort of a lower level in the municipal field where I am still a controller in Borough of Etobicoke, and the budgets come before us and if we say we are going to slash something or we are going to transfer it from one to another, we expect to get detailed information as to where we cut back because we are going to be questioned by people in the community as to why they are getting less service in some area. This may not be the case here, but to me $80,000 is still a sizeable sum—and there are many more on top of that—and I think we should have some indication as to how it has been cut back.

The Chairman: Fine. The point is well taken and I suppose in the future the estimates are going to be clearer on that point.

Is Vote 10b carried?

Mr. McCutcheon: Just a moment, please, Mr. Chairman. In the Blue Book of 1969 we have an item of $63,000 in connection with the tropospheric scatter terminal station at Frobisher. In here is is shown as $53,000 and for 1970 it is to be $125,000.

An hon. Member: Could you tell us what page it is on?

Mr. McCutcheon: Yes, I will be glad to. In the 1969 Blue Book it is on page 47, in the 1970 book it is on page 40 and in the Supplementary Estimates which we have it is under Vote 10b on page 5.

Mr. Cloutier: The increase in the final supplementary to $53,000 would thereby raise the total amount for the tropospheric scatter terminal at Frobisher to $116,000 for 1968-69 and the amount provided in the 1969-70 estimates is $125,000, which would show a gross of roughly $10,000 between the total of 1968-69 and 1969-70. The original figure of $63,000, which appears on page 47 of the 1968-69 Blue Book, is insufficient and it is being supplemented by the supplementary estimates before you.

Mr. Robinson: Mr. Chairman, how can you allow for such gross error in terms of how much you are going to require for this? It is almost 50 per cent.

Mr. Cloutier: The explanation that we have is that this additional amount is required because of a short fall in anticipated revenues and an increase in the cost of operation and

• 1550

maintenance, as provided to the Department by the Canadian National Railways.

Mr. Gillespie: In other words, then is that what a tropospheric scatter terminal is? Is that not what we are talking about?

The Chairman: Yes.

Mr. Gillespie: What is a tropospheric scatter terminal station?

Mr. Cloutier: You want to know exactly what it is?

Mr. Gillespie: I thought you were referring to something connected with the CNR.

Mr. Cloutier: Do you have a definition for a tropospheric scatter terminal station?

Mr. Gillespie: Was that not your question, Mr. Robinson, "How could you be so far out on this item?"?

Mr. Robinson: Right.

Mr. Gillespie: And I thought the answer that Mr. Cloutier gave had to do with the CNR. I could not see the connection between the two.

Mr. Cloutier: This is the CNR's facility.

Mr. Gillespie: I see.

Mr. Cloutier: Which we are using.

Mr. Gillespie: It is a relay station of some kind, is it not, for taking messages and relaying them on?

Mr. Cloutier: Something like that. I am afraid I am not an expert in this field at all.

The Chairman: It is for communication anyway.

Mr. McCutcheon: Mr. Chairman, it is a very glamorous looking thing but when it goes up by $53,000 over what had appeared for 1967-68, and it is now going up again by another $9,000 to $125,000, what in the world are they doing?

The Chairman: Mr. Cloutier is not in a position to answer that question. If you insist we can have someone appear from the Department of Transport tomorrow afternoon and try to find out the answer.

Mr. McCutcheon: I do not think that is essential, but surely we could have a short memo filed with us explaining it.

The Chairman: All right. Will you look into this, Mr. Levesque, to see if we can get a memo from the communications department so that we will know why they were out in their estimate by more than 50 per cent.

Shall Vote 10b carry?

Mr. Peddle: You might ask them what it is, too, Mr. Chairman, just as a matter of interest.

The Chairman: All right. We will ask them what they mean by "tropospheric scatter terminal station".

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): It is money!

The Chairman: Well, it costs money anyway.

Vote 10b agreed to.

The Chairman: We will now go on to Consumer and Corporate Affairs.

Consumer and Corporate Affairs

Vote 1b—Departmental Adiminstration

Travelling Expenses—$3,000

Telephones and Telegrams—$700

Postage—$200

Publication of Departmental Reports $22,000

Professional and Special Services—$132,000

Office Stationery, Supplies and Equipment—$75,400

Furniture and Fixtures—$9,000

Sundries—$100

Total—$242,400

The Chairman: Mr. Lambert.

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): Professional and Special Services, a $132,000 increase. These services can come very high and they can become very sophisticated.

An hon. Member: They can also be very useless. What have you got?

Mr. Cloutier: The explanation for these additional funds is made up of several items. The studies that are in the process of being made in connection with the establishment of a prices and income commission, the study on investments and securities and the establishment of a consumer advisory council in accordance with the provisions of Section 7 of the Consumer and Corporate Affairs Act, the establishment of a departmental library and the establishment of a departmental information service. The item that you are referring to "Professional and Special Services", would refer more particularly to the first three of these items, the prices and income commission, a study on investments and securities and the study to complete the revision of the Canada Corporations Act.

The Chairman: Mr. Lambert.

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): I am very interested in the information that Mr. Cloutier gave us because we are then going to look at what they propose to do in 1969-70, and I see under Item 1 a provision for $54,000

• 1555

for professional and special services, and then over in the consumer branch I see for 1969-70 professional and special services in the amount of $123,300, and in the corporate

affairs branch, it shows $133,800. We are certainly getting a lot of professional services. It is too bad that Mr. Basford is not here because this is not something that I think you have to justify, you have told us what it is. Let me say right now that this is red-flagged. I will admit that this is the crank-up period for this Department, and you might say in order to start certain things that you may require some assistance, but here we have $132,000 in the general administration and we have $10,000 in the consumer affairs branch, and this is in addition to what is being provided for in the initial vote of $53,000 in the administration side. We then come to next year and the bill is even higher. This is indeed a fine crank-up period.

Mr. Cloutier: It is $515,000 in total.

The Chairman: Will Vote 1b carry?

Mr. Robinson: Mr. Chairman, I have one question.

The Chairman: Mr. Robinson.

Mr. Robinson: In connection with the $75,400 for office stationery, supplies and equipment, is this toward setting up the regional offices that were mentioned by the Minister.

Mr. Cloutier: No, the regional offices, sir, are the next vote.

Mr. Robinson: What would this $75,400 be for?

Mr. Cloutier: This would be in connection with the setting up of the departmental library and probably the establishment of the information service.

Mr. Robinson: Would any of this have to do with salaries?

Mr. Cloutier: No, no. Salaries are a separate item.

The Chairman: Where would this equipment be situated, Mr. Cloutier? Where would they put that $75,400 worth of equipment, in which building?

Mr. Cloutier: This is not only equipment, it is office stationery and supplies.

The Chairman: I see.

Mr. Cloutier: They are setting up a library and there will be the acquisition of books.

Mr. Robinson: This would not be a down-payment on the use of a computer, or something, would it?

Mr. Cloutier: No, no. They have no computers and if they were renting one it would be shown separately.

The Chairman: Does Vote 1b carry?

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): Before that, Mr. Cloutier, could you supply us with information—within the administration side of Vote 1—as to the personnel in the Consumer and Corporate Affairs Department?

Mr. Cloutier: The number of staff?

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): Yes.

Mr. Cloutier: In 1968-69?

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): I see a figure of 731 here under Votes 1 and 5. Is that correct?

Mr. Cloutier: If you go to page 57 of the 1968-69 Blue Book...

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): Oh, I am a year ahead of myself.

Mr. Cloutier: Under Vote 1, personnel, the continuing establishment in 1968-69 is 103, and this is provided for in the Main Estimates of 1968-69 at page 57. The staff increase from 1968-69 to 1969-70 is shown at page 49 of the 1969-70 Estimates, and it is shown as going from 103 to 133 full-time continuing employees in 1969-70.

• 1600

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): Yes. I think this is what led me astray here. They are really not relevant to our discussion but they show the pattern. We have Vote 5, Consumer Affairs, and Vote 10, Corporate Affairs, but as these did not exist at all under the Department in 1969-70, they would be where, over the Registrar General?

Mr. Cloutier: If you are looking at the revised estimates for 1968-69 and 1969-70, the totals are there. There has been, I am advised, a restructuring of the vote pattern between these two years.

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): There is in the staff, too. This is what bothers me. Perhaps Mr. Basford has been out on a wholesale hiring campaign. Under Item 1 the purely departmental administration goes up from 103 to 133. I do not necessarily approve, but I understand. Then we get into Item 5, Consumer Affairs, and we suddenly find our-

selves with over 700 people. These come from somewhere.

Mr. Cloutier: This large component in Consumer Affairs is the standards branch from the old Trade and Commerce Department, and I think that accounts for something like at least 500 inspectors across the country.

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): All right. Item 1b agreed to.

CONSUMER AND CORPORATE AFFAIRS

Vote 25b—Consumer Affairs Branch 150,000

Travelling Expenses 5,000

Telephones and Telegrams 7,300

Consumer Publications 52,500

Professional and Special Services 10,000

Office Stationery, Supplies and Equipment 20,000

Furniture and Fixtures 26,000

Acquisition of Equipment 19,200

Sundries 10,000

Total 150,000

Total, Consumer and Corporate Affairs 392,400

The Chairman: Mr. Robinson.

Mr. Robinson: I see it says Office Stationery, Supplies and Equipment—$20,000, and then down a little further it says Acquisition of Equipment—$19,200. What additional equipment is this, that it would not be in the other classification?

Mr. Cloutier: The difference here is that the first item, Office Stationery, Supplies and Equipment, is expendable equipment not of a capital nature. The item, Acquisition of Equipment, by definition—if you will refer to the code number at the end of the line there, No. (9)—is a capital item which would be a major piece of equipment with a life expectancy of several years, whereas in the first item it would be staplers and that kind of office equipment.

Mr. Robinson: As a point of information, does the department rent any equipment?

Mr. Cloutier: Under this Item 25b, yes, the rental of office equipment in the main estimates for 1968-69 at page 64 indicates Rental of Office Equipment—$500.

Mr. Robinson: There is nothing in the supplementary estimates.

Mr. Cloutier: No.

The Chairman: Shall Item 25b carry?

Mr. McCutcheon: Just a minute. There is an item here of Travelling and Removal Expenses for $356,000, plus an additional $5,000, and this is under the Consumer Affairs Branch.

The Chairman: Yes, the first item, Travelling Expenses.

Mr. McCutcheon: That seems quite large.

Mr. Cloutier: You have to remember here the nature of the operation. These are the weights and measures inspectors going across the country inspecting weights and measures, and you have gas and electricity inspectors moving from one place of business to another to inspect these devices.

Mr. McCutcheon: Why would there be removal expenses?

Mr. Cloutier: In the definition of the item Travelling and Removal Expenses, travelling and removal expenses are always grouped together. In this particular case in view of the formation of new regional offices across the country in the Consumer Affairs Branch, there may very well be some removal expenses of employees who are being transferred from one place to another.

Mr. McCutcheon: Thank you.

Shall Item 25b carry?

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): I notice that there is no supplementary charge being made by Mr. Kierans. This is an in-shop affair, is it? He is carrying the departmental mail at cost or at reduced rates?

Mr. Cloutier: That is right.

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): I see. He does not charge his own operation.

Mr. Cloutier: That is right.

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): I am sorry. No. Communications would be carried but I see on page 57 of the Revised Estimates the Post Office Department does charge or allocate a cost to a department. It is at $37,300 and it has gone up to $71,000 for 1969-70. There is nothing for the supplementary estimate.

Mr. Cloutier: That is right.

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): What is that? A bonus for this year?

Mr. Cloutier: No., this is probably an effect of the re-organization, with the Consumers Branch coming into the Department of Corporate Affairs.

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): No, but you did not get my point, that Mr. Kierans was likely deciding that the government departments were going to get a bonus for the balance of the fiscal year.

Item 25b agreed to.

ENERGY, MINES AND RESOURCES

A—DEPARTMENT

Water and Coordination of Renewable Resources Programs

Vote 50b—Contributions to the Provinces towards the construction of dams and other works to assist in the conservation and control of water resources, and grants and other contributions as detailed in the Estimates—$1

Research and Investigations on Water Resources—Policy and Planning

To increase the contribution to the Canadian Council of Resource Ministers to an amount equal to one third of the total capital and operating costs of the Council but not exceeding $84,000 and to provide an additional amount of—$4,000

Less: Funds available in the Revised Estimates, 1968-69—$3,999

Total—$1

Mr. Robinson: Mr. Chairman, I wonder if that could be explained further. We show $4,000 to the increase, less $3,999. I am not quite sure as to what this is about.

Mr. Cloutier: This is an offset within the same vote. In other words, the other examples that were highlighted were transfers from one vote to another. In this case, since this is a grant in effect of a contribution, the item has to be listed in supplementary estimates. And since there is expected to be a lapse in that vote, there is no need for...

Mr. Robinson: I assumed that grants were something that were established and were not flexible.

Mr. Cloutier: This is a contribution to the Canadian Council of Resource Ministers. The arrangement is that the Canada share is one-third of the cost of this Council, and the original estimate was based on a total estimate of the cost of operation of $240,000, thereby making the government's contribution $80,000.

Mr. Robinson: How can you make a grant retroactive? In other words, this is money that I assume has already been spent. We are merely approving it now.

Mr. Cloutier: No. It has not been paid out yet.

Mr. Robinson: It is to be paid out for 1968.

Mr. Cloutier: 1968-69.

Mr. Robinson: Once again my question is, as I understand grants, they are static. The amounts are fixed.

Mr. Cloutier: Yes.

Mr. Robinson: How could there be this increase or this special additional amount?

Mr. Cloutier: This is a contribution, in effect.

Mr. Robinson: Why would it not be in 1969 instead of 1968?

Mr. Cloutier: There is probably a similar item in 1969 with respect to the operations of the Council of Resource Ministers during 1969.

Mr. Robinson: Did we not know in 1968 that this item would be coming up?

Mr. Cloutier: Yes, there was $80,000 provided for in the revised estimates, but the total share of the federal government is now estimated at $83,916.

Mr. Robinson: Then you are saying that the grant procedure adopted is not static, but can fluctuate in terms of the cost.

Mr. Cloutier: In effect this is not a grant, specifically. It is a contribution. A grant is usually fixed, but contributions are not.

The Chairman: Mr. Robinson the wording is there:

> To increase the contribution to the Canadian Council of Resource Ministers to an amount equal to one third...

So if there is an increase, our part will increase up to $84,000.

Mr. Robinson: Then there is a difference between a grant and a contribution. I understood from your first answer to my question

• 1610

that you were saying that this was in effect a grant, which I assumed was static. Now you are saying that it is a contribution, something different.

Mr. Cloutier: I am sorry if I misled you, sir. A quick definition of a grant is an outright payment for which there is no audit to establish the amount. A quick definition of a contribution is a payment following which there is an audit to establish the precise amount of the payment.

Mr. Robinson: Thank you very much. I understand the difference now.

Item 50b agreed to.

D—DOMINION COAL BOARD

Vote 75b—Administration and Investigations of the Dominion Coal Board—To authorize the transfer of $22,799 from Energy, Mines and Resources Vote 40, Appropriation Act No. 4, 1968 for the purposes of this Vote—$1.00

Salaries and Wages—$20,000

Telephones and Telegrams—$300

Publication of Reports—$2,500

Total—$22,800

Less: Funds available in Energy, Mines and Resources Vote 40 of the Revised Estimates, 1968-69—$22,799

Total—$1.00

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): It is my understanding that the Dominion Coal Board was to be phased out. Am I wrong?

Mr. Cloutier: The provision made in the 1968-69 estimates reflected that function, and the phasing out has not taken place as quickly as had been anticipated at the time the 1968-69 estimates were prepared. And the supplementary item before the Committee is a result of the longer period of operation of the Dominion Coal Board. If I might point to the salaries item, this salaries requirement is not a requirement for salary revisions but for more work being performed than had been anticipated when the main estimates were put together.

The Chairman: The main item is Salaries and Wages—$20,000.

Mr. Cloutier: That is right.

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): Yes, I know. But when we look at the 1968-69 estimates, on page 71 and further details on page 109, we see that the salaries for Administration and Investigations and so forth in Item 75 is $150,000. There was a drop from $236,-339. Obviously the professional and special services were the greatest decline. The number of staff has not declined too much but then we go back to 1969-70 and naturally these supplementary estimates provide a sort of bridge between the two and we are roughly in the same position. That is why I was asking, is there actually a phase-out on Dominion Coal Board? We see under other items that the expenditures of Dominion Coal Board, for instance, peaked in 1967-68 on the basis of what see for 1969-70. There was a peaking in 1967-68. They were up to $204,000 and we are now back to $180,000 for the forthcoming year, but are they going out?

Mr. Cloutier: The program itself has peaked as you mentioned. If you go back to the amount of subsidies that were paid out in 1967-68, and these are shown in the 1968-69 Estimates, the amounts have decreased considerably. It is anticipated that as a result of agreements currently under way the Dominion Coal Board will continue to operate in 1969-70 and this is reflected in the Estimates.

Mr. Robinson: We are getting less but it is going to cost us more.

Mr. Cloutier: No, I would not say you are getting less. You are paying out less.

Mr. Robinson: There is only a reduction of one person in staff.

Mr. Cloutier: Yes, and the major item there is salaries and salaries have gone up.

• 1615

Mr. Robinson: Well, that is what I say. We are supposed to be going out of a program and yet it is costing us more and we are getting less.

Mr. Cloutier: I do not know what you mean by "we are getting less".

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): They are administering much less in the way of subsidies.

Mr. Cloutier: That is right.

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): The same people at an increased cost are doing less work.

The Chairman: Well, not necessarily.

Mr. Cloutier: They will be doing about the same amount of work in 1969-70 as they have been doing in 1968-69.

Mr. Robinson: We can assume it is the same number of giveaways but they will be smaller in amounts.

Mr. Cloutier: Between those two years, yes, sir.

Item 75b agreed to.

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

A—DEPARTMENT

Vote 1b—Administration, Operation and Maintenance—To authorize the transfer of $947,999 from External Affairs Vote 15, Appropriation Act No. 4, 1968, for the purposes of this Vote...

Allowances—$498,400

Removal and Home Leave Expenses—$310,-000

Other Travelling Expenses—$54,600

Telephones, Telegrams and Other Communication Services—$40,000

Office Stationery, Supplies and Equipment —$45,000

Total—$948,000

Less: Funds available in External Affairs Vote 15 of the Revised Estimates, 1968-69 —$947,999

Total—$1.00

Mr. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Mr. Chairman, we are coming more and more to these $1 votes and it seems to me that the ministers in charge of these particular departments took good care that the original estimates were high enough. Now, maybe this is an incorrect assumption.

Mr. Cloutier: I think, sir, that this is an incorrect assumption. Indeed, the Treasury Board decided only in the course of this fall—as I recall it some time in late October—that it would seek to show a more realistic estimate of a net additional requirement and it was only after not only the main estimates were presented and prepared but also tabled in Parliament that the departments were advised, in requesting the approval of Supplementary Estimates, to propose offsetting amounts.

Mr. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Well, now, I am an opposition member and I am not supposed to look for the good in the government, but we might assume that perhaps there is better management in these departments and that is why they have this extra money. Now, that may be assuming too much too, but anyway I will accept your explanation. This is fine.

The Chairman: Shall Item 1b carry? Mr. Lambert.

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): No, Mr. Chairman. There is $950,000 approximately being transferred over from Vote 15 which appears at page 114 of the 1968-69 Blue Book, and that is an item called,

> Assessments, grants, contributions and other payments to International (including Commonwealth) Organizations and International Multilateral Economic and Special Aid Programs.

In other words, there is anticipated a shortfall of at least $1 million in Vote 15. In the main Revised Estimates that total should be $33 million. There is a shortfall of about $1 million which is going towards housekeeping expenses in Allowances, Removal, Travel Expenses, and so on. Then I go to my 1969-70 Estimates for Item 15 at page 84 in my 1970 Blue Book and I find an extraordinary drop to just under $19 million and the performance record for the year 1968-69 is shown to be a little more than $18 million. Now, was there that much of a shortfall between the Estimates of 1968-69 and the anticipated expenditures for 1968-69 in Item 15 of roughly $14 million?

Mr. Cloutier: The figures here which you are looking at in your 1968-69 book include some contributions which have been transferred to the External Aid Office and not to the Department proper, so if you were to look

• 1620

only at the 1969-70 Blue Book, Mr. Lambert, at page 99, you would see the truly corresponding amount as being in 1968-69, $18,165,-850 and in 1969-70, $19,957,800.

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): You mentioned page 99 in the 1969-70 Blue Block?

Mr. Cloutier: Yes, the total of Vote 15 at the bottom of the page.

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): Yes, this is $18,957,800 and then 1968-69 is $18,165,850.

Mr. Cloutier: That is right.

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): All right. In other words, there has been a whole total taken out from 1968-69 out of the $33 million and transferred to External Aid.

Mr. Cloutier: That is right, the CIDA, Canadian International Development Agency, the details of which appears on page 102 of the 1969-70 Blue Book.

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): I think a little explanatory note along the line here could have helped, Mr. Cloutier.

Mr. Cloutier: This, sir, is the fault with the present form of the estimates and I...

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): No, no. That could easily be carried through. In actual fact, when you take the present estimates for 1968-69 in the Blue Book you show at page 102 that the total expenditure under Vote 35 for CIDA is some $69 million, including therein something like $15 million which has been carved out of Vote 15 presumably, but nothing is said there that it came from Vote 15.

Mr. Cloutier: That is right, and this is precisely what I mentioned was one of the serious defects of the present form of Estimates. This sort of thing has been done in the past without providing any explanation, and this is one of the things which we hope to correct with the new form of Estimates.

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): As a supplementary explanation?

Mr. Cloutier: Exactly, so that you can find your way through this maze of things.

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): But the little white books are not sufficient on their own.

The Chairman: Now, gentlemen, please, we are on Vote 1b, Administration. Shall item 1b carry?

Mr. Robinson: Mr. Chairman, I have a question. I notice that the Allowances are up about a half million, and the Removal and Home Leave Expenses is over $300,000. It would seem that the Estimates were grossly overestimated for 1968-69. Would that be the case? The reason I say this particularly is that I see a note in my Estimate book for 1968-69 where I asked that very question, whether these were inflated to some extent and the answer I got was: Oh no, these are quite normal. Now I see that these very amounts—I did not know how much they were at that time—are now considered to be somewhat inflated.

Mr. Cloutier: No, no. They were not inflated. This is why additional moneys are required. They were not high enough and what has happened here is that there has been unforeseen costs in the higher rent abroad and increased costs in education allowances on the first item, and on Removal and Home Leave Expenses from an unexpected increase in freight on shipment of personal effects and from what can only be termed as an underestimate of the amount of movement that would take place.

The Chairman: Are you satisfied with the answer, Mr. Robinson?

Mr. Robinson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

The Chairman: Shall Item 1b carry?

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): I have one question. The last time that we had External Affairs Estimates before us I had some lengthy discussion with Mr. Williams with regard to the facilities that are provided to our External Affairs and Trade Commissioner Service Officers, newspaper communications from Canada. In the last 18 months I have not been in any of our embassies in Europe, but certainly in the summer of 1967 the condition of the newspaper file and the home information file for both the officers and the Canadian public who call there was, I suppose, in the same category as the old dentist's office.

• 1625

This was a complaint that was being made regularly by our Foreign Service Officers, that they just could not get newspapers from Canada within a reasonable time. Oh, they could get the Toronto and Montreal papers, yes, maybe three or four weeks late. It just did not make sense as far as they were concerned. Now, we had long discussions about that and Mr. Williams and others indicated that they would make efforts to see if this could not be improved. Perhaps it is beyond your knowledge to find out whether any additional financial provision has been made to upgrade this kind of service.

Mr. Cloutier: Well, I will refer you to the 1968-69 Estimates at page 118 where you will see under Vote 1 an item called Purchase of Publications for Distribution where the allocation for 1968-69 was $165,000 as against $102,000 the year before. I am also aware of the fact that in the last—well, let us see; we are in 1969 so this would be about a year or year and a half ago—the department revitalized, if you wish, to a considerable degree the internal communications mechanisms within the Department. I would assume from the increase that I have just quoted that this service has been upgraded.

Now, in the 1969-70 Estimates, as you are aware there is a new classification of expenditures which is not as detailed as the one in the previous book, but you will see under the title "Information" an increase of $1 million at page 87. I would not venture the guess that all of that increase went into publications and—

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): No, the newspapers would have said something about it.

Mr. Cloutier: I think it would be safe to assume that this item will contain a fair portion for this internal information service.

The Chairman: Shall Vote 1b carry?

Item 1b agreed to.

External Affairs, Vote 15b.

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

A—DEPARTMENT

Vote 15b—Assessments, grants, contributions and other payments to International (including Commonwealth) Organizations and International Multilateral Economic and Special Aid Programs as detailed in the Estimates, including authority to pay assessments in the amounts and in the currencies in which they are levied, and authority to pay other amounts specified in the currencies of the countries indicated, notwithstanding that the total of such payments may exceed the equivalent in Canadian dollars, estimated as of January, 1969.....$1.

Mr. Cloutier: These are, I think, all grants that have to be listed in the estimates. The funds are available within the vote and this is why it is a $1 vote. The funds are available within the same vote.

Mr. Robinson: It is just a question of juggling the grants around.

Mr. Cloutier: Grants can be paid only when they are listed in the estimates, and to the extent that the amounts so listed in the main estimates were not sufficient, they had to be listed again.

Mr. Robinson: I wonder if we could have some explanation of this Miscellaneous Grants and Payments, payment to the United States Government in settlement of Gut Dam claims supported by the United States Government?

Mr. Cloutier: I can give you some explanation on this. By agreement with the United States through the Lake Ontario Claims Tribunal this payment will settle all claims by United States citizens in respect of possible damage to property resulting from the change in water levels due to the building of the Gut Dam in 1903 and 1904, in the Prescott-Ogdensburg section of the St. Lawrence River. These claims have been studied by a Canada-United States Tribunal and the note I have here is for some years.

• 1630

An amount of $90,000 in Item 15 of the 1968-69 revised main estimates described as payments to the Lake Ontario Claims Tribunal, United States and Canada, was the Canadian portion of the costs of operating the Tribunal. The work of the Tribunal having been completed, that original amount will not be required.

Mr. Robinson: Do you mean to say that this has been going on for some 65 or 66 years?

Mr. Cloutier: I do not think that the dispute has been going on as long as this but I know that there has been representation at the government-to-government level for a number of years on this and that this represents the settlement of all the claims.

Mr. Robinson: Is this the total cost since 1903?

Mr. Cloutier: There may have been some claims paid in previous years—I am not positive of this; but this; I am informed, is the clean-up of the operation.

Mr. Robinson: Would there not be some statutory limitation on the claims?

Mr. Cloutier: I am not a lawyer, I cannot tell you.

Mr. Robinson: It seems ridiculous that we would keep an organization going for some 63 or 64 years.

Mr. Cloutier: Oh no, I am not saying that the Lake Ontario Claims Tribunal has been operated that long. This is a Tribunal that was set up by the two governments to adjudicate these claims, and the amount proposed now would settle all the claims

Mr. Robinson: But it is something that has been going on since 1903?

Mr. Cloutier: The damage that gave rise to the claims happened then. The dam was built then but I do not know that the claims were presented as early as that. I am practically certain—as a matter of fact I am sure—that the Tribunal has not operated that long.

Mr. Robinson: It reminds me of a page from Charles Dickens; it just goes on endlessly and never gets cleared up. But this is the end of it?

Mr. Cloutier: Yes.

The Chairman: Shall Vote 15b carry?

Item 15b agreed to.

The Chairman: Now, the Canadian International Development Agency.

B—CANADIAN INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT AGENCY

Vote 30b—Salaries and expenses—To authorize the transfer of $102,599 from External Affairs Vote 35, Appropriation Act No. 4, 1968, for the purposes of this Vote—1

Mr. Gillespie: Mr. Chairman, I have a question for Mr. Cloutier. It has to do with the total of the International Development Agency's costs. I have always found it difficult to pin down the amount of our foreign aid and our aid to underdeveloped countries. If one were to take the figures of the revised main estimates for 1968-69, the impression I get is that this would be $138,500,000, Vote 35. Is that correct?

Mr. Cloutier: These are grants only, sir. There are also loans items at the pack of the book. The External Aid program is a two-part program: part grant and part loan. In the 1968-69 exercise the amounts of loans appear on page 577, and you will see that there is another item of $106 million.

Mr. Gillespie: Right. Are these forgivable loans or repayable loans?

Mr. Cloutier: These are repayable loans. If they became uncollectable, then they would be written off through the sort of vote that we saw this morning in the Treasury Board votes.

Mr. Gillespie: So one would add the figure of $106 million to $138, making $244 million?

Mr. Cloutier: This would be the amount appropriated in 1968-69 for the External Aid Program.

Mr. Gillespie: Are there any other places where aid to underdeveloped countries appears in the estimates?

Mr. Cloutier: Yes, there is an item in the Department of Finance in 1968-69—oh, I am sorry. I think this might have been handled through a supplementary estimate last year, 1967-68. An amount of $82 or $83 million.

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): This appears as Item L28 on page 30 of Bill C-141.

Mr. Cloutier: You are right, that is it. This is a contribution to the International Development Agency and is the equivalent, I think, of $75 million in U.S. dollars. It appears on page 577, immediately below the item to which I was referring earlier.

The Chairman: Shall Item 30b carry?

Item 30b agreed to.

The Chairman: On page 8, Finance Department, Item 2b.

FINANCE

A—DEPARTMENT

Administration

Vote 2b—Grant to the Endowment Fund of the Vanier Institute of the Family—L'Institut Vanier de la famille—To authorize the transfer of $424,999 from Finance Vote 15, Appropriation Act No. 4, 1968 for the purposes of this Vote—1

Shall Item 2b carry?

• 1635

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): This is an odd purpose of transferring moneys that have been allocated for municipal grants in lieu of taxes to the Vanier Institute of the Family without commenting at all on the purposes of the Vanier Institute. I am still quite con-

cerned about this transfer of funds from one purpose to another. Here is a classic example, it seems to me, where there may be some money left over in the municipal grants account and then you suddenly turn it over to the Vanier Institute. I would have thought that under Item 15 both the provinces and the municipalities would be after every penny that they could possibly get.

Mr. Cloutier: Yes, but under the arrangement under which Item 15 is administered there would be moneys that would lapse. In other words, moneys that would not be payable, that would not become payable to the provinces. So in effect this offset is not taking away any money that would rightfully be payable to the provinces under Item 15, but simply using a provision that would otherwise lapse.

Mr. Robinson: Does this indicate a cancellation of a program such as the Winter Works Program?

Mr. Cloutier: No, sir, this would have nothing to do with it.

The Chairman: What exactly is the Endowment Fund of the Vanier Institute, Mr. Cloutier?

Mr. Cloutier: The arrangement is that the government has undertaken to match the moneys donated to the Vanier Institute by private industry and other sources.

Mr. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): In this respect why would there not be a statement in the original estimates for this Fund? Did they not have it set up then? What is the reason?

Mr. Cloutier: This is not the first time that the Vanier Institute has appeared in the estimates. Throughout the year the Institute receives donations and the government has undertaken to match those donations.

Mr. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): But you are suggesting then that there was an extra $425,000 or so raised over what was originally intended or expected?

Mr. Cloutier: Actually there was nothing provided in the main estimates.

Mr. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): My question is: why not?

Mr. Cloutier: At that time there was no accounting done by The Vanier Institute Of The Family as to any amounts that would become payable.

• 1640

Mr. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): It raises a question that was raised here earlier: "Look, we have got this money left over". I am not saying that this is the case, but it arouses a suspicion in our minds, in my mind and in some others here as well. "Look we have got this much money left over, so we will have an opportunity to do this or that or something else with it." I realize that we should raise this with the Minister, and I think in proper time we will do so. But I will state it again. Why was it not in the original? All right, your explanation is fine. Thank you.

Mr. Gillespie: Mr. Chairman, I did not fully comprehend the purpose and the position of The Vanier Institute Of The Family. Is it a body which is supported solely by the government?

Mr. Cloutier: No. The government contribution is equal to the contributions that the Vanier Institute receives from private and other sources.

Mr. Gillespie: Does this mean then that if private and other sources increase their contributions from year to year, the government will have to match them?

Mr. Cloutier: It means under the present arrangement that The Vanier Institute Of The Family received contributions of $425,000 since the last donation or contribution by the government, and the government is now matching that amount.

Mr. Gillespie: If private industry raises $500,000 next year, the government will be on the hook for $500,000?

Mr. Cloutier: Under the present arrangements that is my understanding, sir.

Mr. Gillespie: It is an open-ended shared-cost program, is it?

The Chairman: That arrangement was made before the main estimates were put out.

Mr. Cloutier: Yes, this is an arrangement that has been going on for . .

The Chairman: But at that time you did not provide anything in the main estimates.

Mr. Cloutier: At that time we had no indication from The Vanier Institute that they would be asking us to match grants.

The Chairman: So the arrangement was not taken at that time. It was taken afterwards, that we had to match everything they received.

Mr. Cloutier: Oh, no. This is an arrangement that was entered into when the Vanier Institute first started, and this goes back to 1964 or 1965, I think.

The Chairman: Mr. McCutcheon.

Mr. McCutcheon: The 1967-68 estimates show $1 million under this heading—under Item 15—and then 1968-69 shows $2 million, a hundred per cent increase. So we have got that much extra money allotted and we take $425,000 of it and give it to The Vanier Institute of The Family fund, and the balance, another $275,000, we give to the Royal Canadian Mint. My question is, how can they justify raising $2 million under that heading and then not using the money for the purpose for which it was raised?

Mr. Cloutier: In effect, sir, it reflects an overestimate in Vote 15.

Mr. McCutcheon: Was my statement correct, that it was used for something that it was not designed for, that it was not raised for, initially?

Mr. Cloutier: It has not been used.

Mr. McCutcheon: No, but it has every appearance that it is going to be.

Mr. Cloutier: If this offset were not taking place, the moneys voted under Vote 15 would not all be spent. They would lapse.

Mr. McCutcheon: Well, they should lapse when you are doubling your estimate, going from $1 million to $2 million. I mean, I am just not clear, Mr. Cloutier.

Mr. Cloutier: The purpose of Vote 15 is the grants to provinces and municipal services in respect of real estate taxes imposed or levied on federal property for services ordinarily provided by municipalities, and the assessment made of the amounts owing for 1968-69 to the various municipalities is lower than had been estimated earlier. Therefore, the whole provision will not be required for the purposes of Vote 15 and the item before you, 2b, is a proposal to assign some of this overage to this other purpose.

Mr. Robinson: Mr. Chairman, I have a supplementary. Are you suggesting, Mr. Cloutier, that the municipalities would increase their assessment rate to the federal government on federal properties by 100 per cent in one year?

Mr. Cloutier: I am afraid I cannot give you a complete answer to your question. I do not think that it is the municipalities that present bills, but it is a calculation by the Department of Finance of the amount that should be payable to the municipalities with respect to the services.

Mr. Robinson: But surely you are not suggesting that there would be a 100 per cent increase?

Mr. Cloutier: For this I would have to go back to the reasons that were advanced by the Department with respect to Vote 15, and I am sorry, I have not got them at the moment.

• 1645

Mr. Robinson: Looking at your figures now, with $1 million for 1967-68 and roughly $1,300,000 for 1968-69, it would seem that your figure for 1969-70 of $2 million is away out of line. Is this another "slush" fund so that you can take another $400,000 out of it next year for the Vanier Institute? I do not see anything in your 1969-70 estimates of a grant to the Vanier Institute.

Mr. Gillespie: Mr. Chairman, on a supplementary. Is it possible that the increase from $1 million to $2 million to which Mr. Robinson is referring might have been set up to provide for the settlement of negotiations which have been going on between municipalities and the federal government in respect to these grants?

Mr. Robinson: There are no negotiations going on. I am certainly not aware of any. I am still sitting on a Council and there have been no negotiations going on of which I am aware.

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): Mr. Chairman, this has nothing to do with the grants to municipalities in lieu of taxes; this is grants to provinces with regard to a certain real estate tax. It is conceivable that there may have been anticipation of a real estate tax or that some province may have said that it was contemplating a real estate tax. But I find, just as Mr. Gillespie indicated, that whereas there was a short fall in expenditures of at least $700,000 in 1968-69, the same estimate is provided for in 1969-70. If you will look at

page 107 of the 1969-70 estimates, you will see in this particular Item 15 another $2 million.

Mr. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Mr. Chairman, I have a question.

Mr. Robinson: On a point of order, Mr. Chairman. I do not think I had an answer to my question.

The Chairman: I think all the questions are related, so we will give a chance to...

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): But if you would point out to Mr. Robinson that if he would look at the item before the one that we were considering, Item 15, if he looks at Item 10 he will see that the grants to municipalities amount to $46 million. They amounted to almost $46 million in 1968-69, and they are anticipated to go up almost another $2 million to $47,850,000 in 1969-70. Those are the big items to the municipalities. This other business is grants to a province with regard to a certain real estate tax.

Mr. Cloutier: Which is calculated in the same way as if it were under the Municipal Grants Act.

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): Yes.

Mr. Cloutier: I might point out that this is also a new program; there were no funds so provided in 1966-67, and this might be the growing pains of a new endeavour here, the difficulty of gauging precisely the amount required.

Mr. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): You are referring to...

Mr. Cloutier: I am referring to Vote 15.

Mr. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): There is no allocation in the 1969-70 estimates at all for the Vanier Institute. Are we assuming that there will be no money spent, or at least no money given to them?

Mr. Cloutier: I think that one member mentioned the fact that this was an open-ended program, and the intentions of the government with respect to open-ended programs have been stated on a number of occasions.

Mr. Robinson: Even if it is a "blank cheque" program?

Mr. Cloutier: I would prefer to use the term "open-ended program".

Mr. Robinson: How can you say it is an open-ended program when you are spending $425,000 on it, and you are not estimating for something?

Mr. Cloutier: The intention here is to "cap" the program. You know, in other words, put a lid on it.

Mr. Robinson: So we can assume there will be no payment made in 1969-70 at all.

Mr. Cloutier: We do not expect that there would be any payments made in 1969-70.

The Chairman: Shall Vote 2b carry?

Item 2b agreed to.

DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE

Royal Canadian Mint

Vote 30b—Administration, Operation and Maintenance—To authorize the transfer of $275,000 from Finance Vote 15, Appropriation Act No. 4, 1968 for the purposes of this Vote and to provide a further amount of 690,000

Salaries and Wages 197,000

Overtime 100,000

Express on Coin Shipments 200,000

Repairs and Upkeep of Equipment 65,000

Supplies—Coining and Medal Work 65,000

Supplies—Refining and Assaying 25,000

Supplies—Numismatic Work 313,000

Total 965,000

Less: Funds available in Finance Vote 15 of the Revised Estimates, 1968-69 275,000

Total 690,000

Mr. Gillespie: Mr. Chairman, I have a question about Numismatic Work—$313,000. In looking at the estimates for 1968-69, only

• 1650

$19,000 was provided, whereas for the previous year $1,200,000 was provided. I wonder if Mr. Cloutier would tell us about that?

Mr. Cloutier: Yes, sir. What happened here was that this particular thing had to do with cases for gold coins in 1967-68 which were not received until 1968-69. So that whereas the $1.2 million—this was Centennial year and you know about the production of all the souvenir sets. There was an amount owing of $313,000 originally included in the $1.2 million for these cases for gold coins which were not received until the end of the year. This could

not be paid out of those funds which lapsed and which now have to be provided for under this item.

Mr. Gillespie: This is just for the gold coins?

Mr. Cloutier: That particular point is just the cases for the gold coins.

Mr. Gillespie: Is it true then to say that something in the order of $330,000 was for gold coin sets?

Mr. Cloutier: Just the cases for the gold coins.

Mr. Gillespie: Just the cases? Right.

Mr. Cloutier: You see, there is a difference.

Mr. Gillespie: Right.

Mr. Robinson: What is the income from this program?

Mr. Cloutier: Considerable.

Mr. Robinson: Do you not think it would be helpful if we could show that it is costing us $300,000, but we are going to get back a million?

Mr. Cloutier: It would be very helpful. Unfortunately, the present form of estimates does not do so. In the new form of estimates, the revenues from each program are displayed. It simply has not been the practice up to now to do so, but in the new form of estimates which are available it will be shown.

Mr. Robinson: There will be an extra column?

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): Right here at page 152 in your Revised Estimates for 1968-69, if you look under Vote 30, Expenditure and Revenue, starting from 1965-66, and in 1967-68, which is your jubilee year, your expenditures were $3,759,000 and your revenue was just about $20 million. Not a bad margin.

Mr. Cloutier: Thank you, Mr. Lambert.

Item 30b agreed to.

SPECIAL

Vote 46b—Amount required to recoup the Exchange Fund Account to cover the 1966 net loss arising from trading operations in foreign exchange, gold and securities, and the net valuation adjustments on unmatched purchases or sales of foreign exchange, gold and securities, during that year 553,393

Total, A—Department 1,243,394

Mr. Robinson: Would this be a loss attributable to the fluctuation of the United States dollar?

Mr. Cloutier: I am afraid I cannot give you a detailed answer on this. This particular item has arisen as a result of the need to restore the surplus account in the exchange fund to a level established by the Minister of Finance with the concurrence of the Public Accounts Committee. The Public Accounts Committee has argued that this 1966 loss should be recouped through the Estimates, and this is now what is being done.

Mr. Robinson: Why would it be just coming before the Committee now? Why would this not be in 1967?

Mr. Cloutier: Well, in some years there are profits and in other years there are losses, and over the period one tends to even out the other. Indeed, in 1964 there were profits of $1,449 million and in 1965 a profit of $1.4 million that were transferred directly to the Consolidated Revenue Fund, and the Public Accounts Committee took exception to leaving this $533,000 loss on the boooks, presumably to have it covered by the next year's profit, and in compliance with the desires of the Public Accounts Committee, this is now being regularized in the Estimates.

Mr. Robinson: Do we have any information yet as to what the situation is for 1967? After all, we are now into 1969.

Mr. Cloutier: I have not got it sir; in 1967 it would appear in the Public Accounts Committee.

• 1655

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): The point is that Public Accounts, you see, for the year ending March 31, 1967, would be the 1966 net loss. The Auditor General would present his report with regard to that in January of 1968 and in 1968 the Public Accounts Committee did not sit until this fall. They are actually considering this particular point, and I think they have raised it somewhere along the line and this is the first opportunity of getting at it. As a matter of fact, if anything like that

happened in 1967, it would not appear until next year. This is how long it takes.

Mr. Chairman: As a supplementary, too, because they do not know yet.

Mr. Lambert: I might also point out that in 1967 the Public Accounts Committee was not called upon to sit at all.

Item 46b agreed to.

The Chairman: We will now move to Fisheries and Forestry vote 15b.

FISHERIES AND FORESTRY

Fisheries Management and Development

Vote 15b—Grants, Contributions and subsidies in the amounts and subject to the terms specified in the sub-vote titles listed in the Details of Estimates—To authorize the transfer of $225,099 from Fisheries and Forestry Vote 5, and $100,000 from Fisheries and Forestry Vote 10, Appropriation Act No. 4, 1968 for the purposes of this Vote...

Assistance to Universities for Education work in Fisheries Techniques and co-operative producing and selling among fishermen —$65,000

Payment, subject to such terms and conditions as the Governor in Council prescribes, of assistance to producers of salted fish on products designated by the Governor in Council in the amount of 50% of the laid down cost of salt purchased for their production, including authority to charge administrative costs to fisheries vote 5, appropriation Act No. 4, 1968 which provides for administration of the Fisheries Prices Support Act.

Assistance to producers of salted fish—$175,000

Assistance in accordance with terms and conditions approved by the Governor in Council, for the construction of fishing vessels in respect of which capital subsidies are not payable pursuant to any other federal authorization—$50,000

To recoup the lobster trap indemnity accounts and the fixed gear and shore installations indemnity account—$35,100

Total—$325,100

Less: Funds available in Fisheries and Forestry Votes 5 and 10 of the Revised Estimates, 1968-69—$325,099—$1.00

Mr. Robinson: Well, we have been hearing so much about fish over the last months and the programs to assist them so I presume this is the assistance they are getting, so I do not see how we can criticize this.

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): Again we are getting a transfer from Appropriations for Acquisitions of Buildings, Works, and Land over to Assistance to Universities for education work in fisheries techniques, so somebody has got a relationship.

Mr. Robinson: There is one question I have, though, Mr. Chairman where it says:

> Assistance in accordance with terms and conditions approved by the Governor in Council, for the construction of fishing vessels in respect of which capital subsidies are not payable pursuant to any other federal authorization.

I assume that this was an extension of that program?

Mr. Cloutier: The Assistance in the Construction of Vessels program is really an old program. It provides for the subsidization of construction of fishing vessels of efficient and modern design. It was inaugurated, I think, 25 years ago.

As a result of rising prices in shipbuilding and addition of unforseen requirements, actual new vessel costs are proving to be greater than anticipated when the amounts of subsidies which form the basis of the main estimate total of 1.7 million were approved, and this subsidy requirement had increased proportionately in a further amount of $50,000 required to honour these commitments.

Mr. Robinson: Are the subsidies that had been paid under the legislation according to a certain percentage of the cost?

Mr. Cloutier: Let me see how it works; I forget the precise formula under which it is operated, sir, but these agreements have to be, as the Vote wording indicates, approved formally.

Mr. Chairman: Shall Vote 15b carry?

Mr. McCutcheon: Before you pass it, I notice that on page 9 of the Supplementary

Estimates we have Assistance to Producers of Salted Fish, which is the 50 per cent subsidy that particularly the Newfoundlanders have been receiving, and I notice that in 1968-69 this is reduced to $150,000 from the previous year's about $500,000.

Is this being phased out?

Mr. Cloutier: This is the phase-out and this is the end of it. In other words, it had been hoped that it could be phased out more rapidly and, in point of fact, there were these additional amounts owing but it is...

Mr. McCutcheon: Mr. Cloutier, does the same apply to the Construction grant which I notice has dropped from $5 million to $1.7 million? Is it being phased out?

Mr. Cloutier: That is right, sir.

The Chairman: Is Vote 15b carried?

Item 15b agreed to.

The Chairman: On vote 18b-Special.

Special

Vote 18b—Estimated amount required to recoup the Fisheries Prices Support Account established by Chapter 120, R.S.C. 1952, to cover losses to March 31, 1969—$6,541,900

The Chairman: That is a large amount.

Mr. McCutcheon: Is this the purchase of salt fish that was given away as part of External Aid?

• 1700

Mr. Cloutier: I do not know; it might have been.

The Chairman: Well, what would they do with that $6.5 million as a supplement?

Mr. Cloutier: Well, it is made up of a number of items. It covers $4.5 million in deficiency payments to the fishermen in support of ground fish prices. It includes an item of $1.2 million for the net loss resulting from the purchase of the 1967 production of salted cod fish from processors and its resale, and it is made up also of an accumulation of small deficits incurred in the fund since 1962-63. These deficits are now being recouped through this item.

Mr. Robinson: Mr. Chairman, it is noted that 18b is a special vote and there is no corresponding vote in either the 1968-69 or the 1969-70 estimates. Can we assume that any such program covered by this would be covered in the other estimates and this would not be a recurring thing?

Mr. Cloutier: That is right. You see, the Fisheries Prices Support Act has created a special account of $25 million in the Consolidated Revenue Funds to allow the purchase and resale of fish products to maintain the prices, and the amounts that have to be recouped through estimates are losses on these transactions. Now, up to now the losses have been relatively small and they were just carrying them in the accounts, and now the account is being brought back to provide full cycle.

Mr. Robinson: Is this the method in which losses are shown in this area?

Mr. Cloutier: We considered a similar instance this morning in the Agricultural Stabilization Account.

The Chairman: It is a new method, though, because usually they were carrying those losses forward every year, and we never knew exactly how we stood.

Mr. Cloutier: That is right, and the intention is to bring the thing up regularly.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Lambert?

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): By way of information, we are providing for $6,541,900; this is always brought in as a final sum, is it not?

Mr. Cloutier: Yes, sir.

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): I notice in 1969-70 there is not even a $1 item for it. It is just that we are recouping losses on the two major prices stabilization programs; the one is the agriculture, and the other is the fish.

Mr. Cloutier: That is right.

Mr. Chairman: Shall vote 18b carry?

Item 18b agreed to.

The Chairman: On vote 40b.

Forestry

Vote 40b Grants and Contributions as detailed in the Estimates 1

Grants to Forestry Organizations as Detailed in the Estimates

British Columbia Festival of Forestry Organization 15,000

Less: Funds available in the Revised Estimates, 1968-69 14,999

1

Total Fisheries and Forestry 6,541,902

Mr. McCutcheon: What do they mean by "British Columbia Festival"?

The Chairman: Do you want to go there?

Mr. McCutcheon: As a folk singer?

Mr. Cloutier: Since 1966 the Festival of Forestry has become a major program promoting the important role of forestry in British Columbia and in Canada, and one of the major undertakings of the 1967 festival was the Forestry Graduate Congress for which 33 graduate forestry students from 26 universities in 16 Pacific-rim countries were brought to B. C. for a study of Canadian forestry methods and research, and this Graduate Congress was deemed a great success by the B. C. Forest Industry, students themselves and the Festival advisory committee, as well as the Department.

The Festival advisory committee is planning an annual Graduate Congress as part of each year's Festival of Forestry, so that graduate students from forestry faculties of the world can be brought to Canada on a rotation basis from each area. In 1968 the Festival invites 35 graduates from northern Europe, including selected graduates from the eastern United States and from four Canadian universities.

The Festival pays the cost for the graduates while they are in British Columbia, and because the graduates returning to their country are expected to pass on to the teachers in their respective countries, other students and their people the achievements of Canada in the forestry industry and thereby help the cause of Canadian forestry, the grant is being proposed to help to pay the cost of return air fare to Vancouver for these visiting graduates.

Mr. Robinson: Is the cost higher this year than it will be next year?

Mr. Cloutier: I do not remember.

The Chairman: Well, if they have more students I suppose the cost will be higher.

Mr. Robinson: The reason I asked this rather facetious question, Mr. Chairman, is because I noticed that for 1968-69 there was no budget for this item at all, in 1969-70 you are budgeting for $10,000 and now you are asking for $15,000 for the program in 1968

Mr. Cloutier: That is right. You are saying that there is $10,000 in 1969-70?

Mr. Robinson: Yes, on page 141 of the Estimates for 1969-70.

Mr. Cloutier: Presumably this is an assessment of priorities within the departments. As you know, all departments were subjected to a rather severe examination of their expenditure proposals for 1969-70 and have had to cut here and there. I am sure that the department would like to spend more than $10,000 on this, but this is a reflection of having to fit all of their requirements within their over-all total.

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): Is there any possibility that this is a biennial program?

Mr. Cloutier: No, I think it is an annual program.

Item 45b agreed to.

The Chairman: Now gentlemen I wish to thank you very much. I thank you, Mr. Cloutier, and Mr. Hoose. Tomorrow afternoon at 3.30 we will start with Indian Affairs and Northern Development.

HOUSE OF COMMONS

First Session—Twenty-eighth Parliament

1968-69

STANDING COMMITTEE

ON

MISCELLANEOUS ESTIMATES

Chairman: Mr. FERNAND E. LEBLANC

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS AND EVIDENCE

No. 8

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 1969

Respecting

SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATES (B) FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING MARCH 31, 1969

WITNESSES:

(See Minutes of Proceedings)

THE QUEEN'S PRINTER, OTTAWA, 1969

HOUSE OF COMMONS

First Session—Twenty-eighth Parliament

1968-69

STANDING COMMITTEE

ON

MISCELLANEOUS ESTIMATES

Chairman: Mr. FERNAND E. LEBLANC

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS AND EVIDENCE

No. 8

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 1969

Respecting

SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATES (B) FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING MARCH 31, 1969

WITNESSES:

(See Minutes of Proceedings)

THE QUEEN'S PRINTER, OTTAWA, 1969

29522—1

MISCELLANEOUS ESTIMATES

Chairman: Mr. Fernand Leblanc

Vice-Chairman: Mr. Aurélien Noël

and

Mr. Alkenbrack,
Mr. Gillespie,
Mr. Goode,
Mr. Guay (*Lévis*),
Mr. Gundlock,
Mr. Lambert (*Edmonton West*),
Mr. Marchand (*Kamloops-Cariboo*),
Mr. McCutcheon,
Mr. Nystrom,
Mr. Ouellet,
Mr. Paproski,
Mr. Peddle,
Mr. Penner,
Mr. Perrault,
Mr. Robinson,
Mr. Rochon,
Mr. Rodrigue,
Mr. Thomson (*Battleford-Kindersley*)—20.

D. E. Levesque,
Clerk of the Committee.

ORDER OF REFERENCE

HOUSE OF COMMONS
WEDNESDAY, February 26, 1969.

Ordered,—That Bill C-172, An Act to amend the Financial Administration Act be referred to the Standing Committee on Miscellaneous Estimates.

ATTEST:

ALISTAIR FRASER,
The Clerk of the House of Commons.

29522—1½

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

(*Text*)

WEDNESDAY, February 26, 1969.
(8)

The Standing Committee on Miscellaneous Estimates met this day at 3:50 p.m., the Chairman, Mr. Fernand Leblanc, presiding.

Members present: Messrs. Alkenbrack, Gillespie, Goode, Gundlock, Lambert (*Edmonton West*), Leblanc (*Laurier*), McCutcheon, Noël, Peddle, Penner, Perrault, Thomson (*Battleford-Kindersley*) (12).

Witness: From the Treasury Board: Mr. Sylvain Cloutier, Assistant Secretary.

Present: Mr. R. R. Southam, M.P.

The Committee continued the study of the Supplementary Estimates (B) for the fiscal year ending March 31, 1969.

The Chairman called Vote 5B, Indian Affairs and Northern Development.

The Committee agreed to stand all the items of the said Department pending the appearance of the Minister.

Vote 38b, Industry and Trade and Commerce ($1.00) was carried; Department of Labour Votes 5b—$1.00 and 20b—$1.00 were carried; Legislature Votes 5b—$301,700 and 15b—$10,435 were carried; Manpower and Immigration Votes 6b—$1.00, 10b—$1.00, 15b—$6,200,000 and 25b—$1.00 were carried; National Health and Welfare Votes 20b—$1.00 and 40b—$1.00 were carried; Privy Council Votes 10b—$784,000 and 15b—$200,000 were carried; Public Works Vote 15b—$1.00 was carried.

At 5:30 p.m., the Committee adjourned to 9:30 a.m. Thursday, February 27, 1969.

D. E. Levesque,
Clerk of the Committee.

EVIDENCE

(Recorded by Electronic Apparatus)

February 26, 1969

• 1554

The Chairman: Gentlemen, please. I think we can start the meeting now. As was mentioned when we adjourned yesterday at 5.15 p.m. we shall start at page 10 of the Supplementary Estimates (B) 1968-69, Indian Affairs and Northern Development.

[*Interpretation*]

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): Mr. Chairman, you are asking us here to accept a fairly considerable increase in this particular vote. Usually, in areas where discussion has been extensive, a request is made to transfer the overall amount. It would have been prefera-

• 1555

ble had the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development been here with us to explain this matter. Because to ask Mr. Cloutier to justify expenditures or the lack of expenditures in that Department is not fair. He could give us details or information, but it would simply be information. I can tell you right now, that we would like to have the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development to question him regarding that vote of the supplementary Estimates.

[*English*]

The Chairman: Then I suggest that we leave those Supplementary Estimates for the time being. We are going to get in touch with the Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development to see whether we can have some representatives or even the Minister, if possible, at our first or second sitting tomorrow. We can leave those estimates for the time being and carry on to Industry and Trade and Commerce if the Committee agrees, of course.

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): I think this would be preferable, Mr. Chairman.

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

The Chairman: Mr. Lambert, tomorrow there might be a Cabinet meeting. Perhaps we will get the Deputy Minister. We are going to enquire.

I call Industry and Trade and Commerce, Vote 38b. Shall Vote 38b carry?

INDUSTRY AND TRADE AND COMMERCE

Grains

Vote 38b—Payments in accordance with terms and conditions approved by the Governor in Council to facilitate sales of wheat on credit to developing countries and to authorize the transfer of $999,999 from Industry and Trade and Commerce Vote 10, Appropriation Act No. 4, 1968 for the purposes of this Vote—

Payments in accordance with terms and conditions approved by the Governor in Council to facilitate sales of wheat on credit to developing countries—$1,000,000

Less: Funds available in Industry and Trade and Commerce Vote 10 of the Revised Estimates, 1968-69—$999,999

Total $1.

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): What would be the detail there?

The Chairman: It is on page 11.

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): This is to facilitate the sales of wheat on credit, but $1 million—is this a forgiveness of interest on a sale or something like that, or a forgiveness on a payment?

Mr. Cloutier: This is a program for concessional credit terms to allow sales to be made at lower than normal interest rates and this amount would cover the balance.

The Chairman: Mr. McCutcheon?

Mr. McCutcheon: Did you say "lower than normal interest rates", Mr. Cloutier?

Mr. Cloutier: That is right. This is a program to facilitate the sale in underdeveloped countries that could not pay the carrying charges the wheat market in Canada would

require. The agreements made with those countries will provide an interest rate to be settled in individual agreements on individual transactions with these countries which could go, I suppose, to 3, 4 or 5 per cent, and this credit would provide the necessary funds for the Department to make up the difference.

Mr. McCutcheon: In other words, this is not to be confused with what we accuse some of our competitors of doing—slicing the price.

Mr. Cloutier: No.

Mr. McCutcheon: This is just on the terms of repayment, the interest rate.

Mr. Cloutier: That is right.

The Chairman: Mr. Lambert?

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): Mr. Chairman, this is 38b. I find no item 38 in Appropriation Act, No. 4, and...

Mr. Cloutier: The new Vote that appears in the Supplementary Estimates are underlined, if you will note, at the vote number. That indicates it is a new item in the Supplementary Estimates. Where it is not underlined it means that it is a supplement to a previous vote.

• 1600

The Chairman: Vote 38b is underlined.

Mr. Cloutier: Yes.

The Chairman: Mr. Southam?

Mr. Southam: As you know, wheat sales, particularly as it affects Western Canada, has been a very, very serious problem. It was policy a number of years previously under the Export Credit Insurance Corporation to make funds available for the selling of wheat on time. Now we Westerners understand that competitors too have been going into this market on a large scale, and perhaps this is one of the reasons that we are not selling as much wheat at the present time. Can you inform the Committee what the policy is now with respect to this? Are we selling wheat on time at a much lower rate of interest than what we have previously sold it in order to compete with our exporting competitors?

Mr. Cloutier: This is precisely the intent of this vote, sir.

Mr. Southam: Can you tell me approximately what the interest rate will be?

Mr. Cloutier: This, as I indicated, would vary with each transaction with the various countries involved. The interest rate could be as low as 2 or 3 per cent and the term could be as long as 10 years.

Mr. Southam: Has there been any consideration given to increasing the term beyond 10 years?

Mr. Cloutier: The particular program would be sufficiently flexible to allow various types of transactions to be made, depending on the various possibilities of making the sale.

Mr. Southam: In other words, our sales agency, the Canadian Wheat Board, has then been authorized...

Mr. Cloutier: The whole idea is to sell wheat.

Mr. Southam: Then this will assist the Canadian Wheat Board in negotiating individual deals with people wanting to import our grain.

Mr. Cloutier: That is right.

Mr. Alkenbrack: My question arises from what Mr. Cloutier has just said regarding the interest rate. How can you possibly get money for 2 per cent or 3 per cent, and where do you get it? If you know where to get it you better tell the Minister of Transport about that so we can get on with our housing project.

Mr. Cloutier: You cannot, and that is the reason that we have this item. The underdeveloped country which is willing to buy the wheat would be offered credit terms at 2 per cent—I am saying 2 per cent, it could be 2 per cent, 3 per cent or 4 per cent, depending on the transaction itself—and this vote would provide the funds to a government to make up the difference to the Canadian supplier.

Mr. Alkenbrack: In other words, this sum of $1 million will, when paid out, take the form of supplementary interest.

Mr. Cloutier: That is right.

Mr. Alkenbrack: Only.

Mr. Cloutier: That is right.

Mr. Alkenbrack: Would there be any promotional use made of this money?

Mr. Cloutier: Not this money, this is merely the credit financing.

Mr. Alkenbrack: Supplementary interest.

Mr. Cloutier: That is right.

Mr. Alkenbrack: Subsidized interest.

Mr. Cloutier: That is right.

Mr. McCutcheon: This money comes from Vote 10 which was:

> To advance the technological capability of Canadian manufacturing industry by supporting selected civil (non-defence) development projects on terms and conditions approved by Treasury Board...

This comes from that $10 million.

• 1605

Mr. Cloutier: That is right. The Vote then would not be fully extended in the year and rather than leave the amount lapse the proposal is to transfer an amount from Vote 10 which would not be spent this year to make...

Mr. McCutcheon: How much is anticipated?

Mr. Cloutier: How much is anticipated?

Mr. McCutcheon: Yes.

Mr. Cloutier: The lapse in Vote 10?

Mr. McCutcheon: Yes.

Mr. Cloutier: Let me see now. You see, there is a change in the vote pattern.

Mr. McCutcheon: That is the devil of it.

Mr. Cloutier: Pardon me.

Mr. McCutcheon: I say that is the devil of it. It changes the vote pattern. Would it be Vote 20, Mr. Cloutier, under the 1970 Estimates? I note that the wording is the same.

Mr. Cloutier: That is right—Vote 20 on page 195, about half way down.

Mr. McCutcheon: Yes.

Mr. Cloutier: Unfortunately the expenditure figures here are bulk for a number of items, and I cannot remember how much is expected to lapse there. I just do not remember, sir, I am sorry.

Mr. McCutcheon: Well they are up another $1 million though.

Mr. Cloutier: For next year.

Mr. McCutcheon: Yes.

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): I can see, Mr. Cloutier, that this is going to cause some difficulties for anybody examining the Estimates in 1969-70 and I think perhaps you might make a note of this in respect of the formulation of Estimates.

Now on page 195, when we look at the expenditure column for the preceding year for comparison purposes, we see a $10 million figure, which is the projected figure for 1968-69. However, since there was a shortfall in it we are already taking $1 million away from it in the final supplementary, so therefore the 1968-1969 figure cannot exceed $9 million.

Mr. Cloutier: That is right, but the last column on page 195 is not the expenditure figure for 1968-69, but the estimates figure.

I made a few references yesterday, to the new form of Estimates. The new form of Estimates would correct that deficiency because each vote would be broken down into a number of activities and against each of these activities you would be shown the expected expenditure in the current year as well as the actual expenditure in the preceding year. So that you would have that for each line entry.

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): Mind you, I find it a little difficult to understand how the 1969-70 Book can come out in, say, February, with the fiscal year ending on March 31st, and show what the exact expenditures are going to be for that current year.

Mr. Cloutier: You will note, sir, on page 195 at the bottom of Vote 20 you have the word "(estimated)" against 1968-69. It is the best estimate that could be put together before Christmas. You will appreciate that we have to go to the printers early in January with the Book.

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): So we take it all with a grain of salt.

The Chairman: Shall Vote 38b carry?

Mr. Alkenbrack: There is naturally, still some confusion here. You refer to Vote 10 on page 11—Vote 10 of the Industry, Trade and Commerce Department. I swing to Vote 10 and I do find that Vote 10 is for expenses of a promotional nature.

The Chairman: What page are you on, sir, and what document?

Mr. Alkenbrack: Industry, Trade and Commerce Estimates for 1969-70.

Mr. Cloutier: Do you have the new form of Estimates?

The Chairman: Yes, he has the new form of Estimates.

Mr. Alkenbrack: Mr. Cloutier told me, Mr. Chairman, that none of it was for promotional use.

Mr. Cloutier: Vote 10 that Mr. Lambert was referring to was Vote 10 in the 1968-69 Estimates, sir.

The Chairman: Apparently it would not be the same vote.

Mr. Cloutier: The new form of Estimates does not necessarily follow the same vote pattern that you have in the regular Blue Book.

Mr. Alkenbrack: Yes, and that compounds the confusion. Now we have not those copies in front of us.

Mr. Cloutier: You are talking from this paper. What page are you looking at, sir?

The Chairman: What is the page you were quoting, Mr. Alkenbrack?

Mr. Alkenbrack: I am quoting Vote 10 on page 18 of the Estimates of 1969-70 for Industry, Trade and Commerce.

• 1610

Mr. Cloutier: The item that you are referring to will be found on page 12 of the booklet that you have before you, about midway down the page.

> To advance the technological capability of Canadian manufacturing industry...

Mr. Alkenbrack: Now what is the number of that vote?

Mr. Cloutier: The number of that vote in this booklet is Vote 1.

The Chairman: Mr. Cloutier, would it be the same number?

Mr. Cloutier: No, it is not the same number in this booklet as it is in the Blue Book.

The Chairman: Oh, I see. Are those the same estimates?

Mr. Cloutier: These represent the same estimates presented for illustration purposes in the form that the estimates will take in 1970-71.

Mr. Alkenbrack: I am sure, Mr. Chairman, that Mr. Cloutier will admit that it is impossible for a private member to follow these amounts.

The Chairman: It is confusing, anyway. It will be easier if you look at the Blue Book because the Blue Book is the official one that we are going to use in any event. We are not going to use those white ones, they are only there for—

Mr. Cloutier: When the committees are considering the 1969-70 estimates the Appropriation Act will be based on the one-volume Blue Book. This is the official document on which the Appropriation Act will be based. These booklets, which were prepared and which were explained in some detail to the Public Accounts Committee in December, are prepared to provide an advanced illustration, if you wish, of the form that the estimates will take for 1970-71. In other words, in 1970-71 the ordinary Blue Book will not be produced in this form. It will be produced in this form, in which there are a lot more words than in this one, in order to try to explain the objectives of the program and the manner in which the programs are administered.

The Chairman: Shall Item 38b carry?

Item 38b agreed to.

The Chairman: On the Department of Labour now, Item 5b.

LABOUR
A—DEPARTMENT

Labour Relations

Vote 5b—Administration including the promotion of labour-management consultation—to authorize the transfer of $148,999 from Labour Vote 20, Appropriation Act No. 4, 1968, for the purposes of this Vote—$1

Conciliation Services Including Expenses of Boards and Commissions

Allowances and Expenses of Conciliation Boards, Industrial Inquiry Commissions and Arbitration Services—$149,000

Less: Funds available in Labour Vote 20 of the Revised Estimates, 1968-69—$148,999

Total $1

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): Mr. Chairman, is this as the result of a greater requirement for conciliation services this last fiscal

year and the Minister feels he needs another $150,000 to deal with that item?

Mr. Cloutier: No, this particular requirement has to do with a specific inquiry into labour unrest in the ports of Montreal, Three Rivers and Quebec.

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): It is a form of conciliation services and inquiries.

Mr. Cloutier: Yes.

Item 5b agreed to.

On Item 12b:

Labour Standards and Benefits

Vote 12b—To authorize in the current and subsequent fiscal years payment of compensation pursuant to the Government Employees Compensation Act to employees of the Cape Breton Development Corporation who incurred silicosis as a result of employment in the coal mines now operated by the Corporation prior to their acquisition, as if the injury were incurred subsequent to their acquisition by the Corporation—

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): I take it we have a legislative item here?

Mr. Cloutier: Right, sir.

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): I think this is quite wrong. I believe there are some others like this and I think it is quite wrong at this time that we should be asked, when they are up for consideration within a limited period and they are within the House for a limited period of time, to actually amend certain Acts by means of a $1 item in the supplementary estimates.

• 1615

I will give you fair notice right now that when we come to loans under the Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation that we will have more to say about this because I think this is quite a wrong practice. Last year the House disapproved of this practice and the government withdrew these items. I think they should properly be produced by way of legislative amendments. There is no urgency at the present time to do this sort of thing and I simply cannot accept this one here, sir, in this form.

An hon. member: You are talking about 12b?

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): Yes, 12b.

Mr. Gillespie: Mr. Chairman, I would like Mr. Lambert to explain the problem to me.

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): You are, in effect, being asked to amend an act by authorizing an estimate. This is completely new and there is nothing in the estimates and nothing in the statute that would permit you to do this. I am not complaining about what they want to do. They want to pay some compensation to some Cape Breton miners who developed silicosis as a result of their employment in coal mines prior to their acquisition by the Corporation. That is fine, but what should happen is that the Cape Breton Development Corporation Act should be amended in order to authorize the Board to pay this compensation to the employees. We are doing it here by the back door method of putting a $1 item in the estimates.

The Chairman: Mr. Lambert, perhaps we could ask Mr. Cloutier to give us his explantion as a member of the Treasury Board what the estimate is for.

Mr. Cloutier: As Mr. Lambert has indicated, this is an item to authorize the payment of compensation to, I believe, 81 persons who are suffering from silicosis as a result of their employment in the coal mines. When these coal mines were operated by Dominion Steel and Coal Corporation Limited that company came under the provincial workmens' Compensation Board and these employees received their allowances through that Board. When DEVCO took over the operation the provincial compensation board ceased to have jurisdiction over these people.

The Government Employees Compensation Act, which is administered under the Department of Labour with respect to government employees, does not provide for allowances to individuals who contract a malady of some sort before they became employees of a federal Crown corporation or the federal government. There is no authority in the Government Employees Compensation Act to make these payments to these 81 persons, and the object of this vote is to provide that authority.

Mr. Gillespie: How can you translate the authority into action if you are only providing $1?

Mr. Cloutier: The payments made under the Government Employees Compensation Act are a statutory item under the Depart-

ment of Labour. You will find them on page 212 of the estimates for 1969-70.

The Chairman: What vote is that?

Mr. Cloutier: Statutory items do not have a vote number.

Mr. Gillespie: For 1968-69, and on what page?

Mr. Cloutier: You will see at page 275 that the amount shown in the estimates is $3.5 million. The estimated expenditure under the Act amounts to $3.4 million, so that there would be...

Mr. Gillespie: It was $3.4 million a year ago?

Mr. Cloutier: I am sorry, for 1967-68, yes. The estimated expenditure for 1968-69 is shown in the 1969-70 book and it is shown as $3,072,000.

• 1620

Mr. McCutcheon: Mr. Gillespie, may I ask a supplementary at this time?

Mr. Gillespie: Go ahead, Mr. McCutcheon, I just want to come back and try to pin that figure down.

Mr. McCutcheon: This is being done in this way and at first blush it does not seem very important. There are only 81 people involved. But am I correct in assuming that this is not just for this year, that this will keep re-occurring as long as those 81 people are there? This is not just a single-shot item. In effect what we are doing is legislating.

Mr. Cloutier: That is right, sir. This is a legislative item.

Mr. McCutcheon: Yes.

Mr. Cloutier: The total liability as calculated by DEVCO and the Government Employees Compensation Board would amount to about $1.1 million over presumably the life expectancy of these persons who are affected.

Mr. McCutcheon: I have great sympathy. It is the principle that I take exception to.

The Chairman: We can stand that vote for the time being and carry on, and we will see about it tomorrow.

Mr. Gillespie: Mr. Chairman you say that there is a lifetime liability in the order of $1.1 million. Looking at the figures here on page 275 for 1968-69, there was a provision for that year of $3,551,000. If this were to be inserted through the back door, as I gather this procedure might involve, would it not mean additional expenses over and above $3,551,000?

Mr. Cloutier: No, sir. As I have indicated, if you go to the 1968-70 book at page 212...

Mr. Gillespie: I have not got the 1969-70 book.

Mr. Cloutier: The 1969-70 Estimates indicate an estimated expenditure under that statutory item of $3,072,000...

Mr. Gillespie: Yes.

Mr. Cloutier: ... as against the item shown in the 1968-69 book of $3,551,000.

Mr. Gillespie: Are you saying that the 1969-70 estimates already provide for this amount?

Mr. Cloutier: They do not already provide for that amount, but there would be the flexibility to accommodate them. The current cash outlays would be about $90,000 a year. At the time the main estimates were prepared we had no knowledge of this particular item.

Mr. Southam: Mr. Chairman, I have to support Mr. Lambert in his contention here. In looking through this book of supplementary estimates I see a number of $1 items. I want to be the first to agree with the need for the money that is to be appropriated under this particular item under discussion. The need is there and we are in sympathy with it. But the method we are developing here to accomplish this is creating, I think, what could be a very serious and dangerous precedent in committee work, especially in studying estimates. They are all being presented to committees.

As members of the Opposition, we were able to defend ourselves in the eyes of the public by being able to bring this up and debate it, and I think in the majority of previous cases when this same technique was suggested, it was taken out. I am just wondering, are we not now embarking on a dangerous precedent?

The Chairman: We will stand Item 12b and carry on with the other items for the time being. We will see tomorrow.

LABOUR

Research and Development

Vote 20b—Grants, Contributions and Subsidies as detailed in the Estimates $1

Payments of undischarged commitments in respect of the 1965-66 and previous Winter House Building Incentive Programs referred to in Labour Vote 8d, Appropriation Act No. 2, 1966 $60,000

Less: Funds available in the Revised Estimates, 1968-69 $59,999

Total $1.

This is another transfer of funds as before.

• 1625

An hon. Member: This is from within the same vote.

The Chairman: From within the same vote.

An hon. Member: This should be an item that will not be here again.

Mr. Cloutier: This particular item will not be in there again. This is the cleaning up of the program whereby bonuses of $500 per house were paid in respect of houses constructed during the winter months for several years, the last of which was the winter of 1965-66. This supplementary estimate is required to cover residual claims under this program.

The Chairman: Shall Vote 20b carry?

Mr. Gundlock: Mr. Chairman, may I ask one question. Does this apply to Indians as well?

Mr. Cloutier: I do not know offhand the specifics of the program. Let me put it this way. I do not know that an Indian who would have built a house during the winter would not have been qualified during the life of this program for that grant.

Mr. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): It was not specifically for Indians.

Mr. Cloutier: No, it was not specifically for Indians.

Mr. Gundlock: But they do apply under this item.

Mr. Cloutier: The program is now defunct, sir. The last season during which the program operated was the winter season of 1965-66. These are really cleaning-up claims that have just been received.

Mr. Gundlock: There is some difference of opinion there.

Mr. Cloutier: In which way, sir?

The Chairman: Could you explain yourself, Mr. Gundlock?

Mr. Gundlock: People have applied, and then this is wound up and their applications are withdrawn or thrown out.

Mr. Cloutier: The program was officially terminated after the 1965-66 season and it applied only to houses constructed during that season. I would surmise that persons constructing houses during the 1966-67 season simply would not be covered. There is no program to cover them.

Mr. Gundlock: This is exactly what I am saying, Mr. Chairman, exactly what I am saying. A person applies, but funds are not available until the next year, and now it is out. What do you do about those people?

Mr. Cloutier: To the extent that there is no program applicable to the year 1966-67, they have no claim.

Mr. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): In effect you do not get any. Just like this winter, there is no winter works program. The municipalities do not need to apply because they will not get any money if they do.

The Chairman: Shall vote 20b carry?

Mr. Alkenbrack: Mr. Chairman, I want to ask Mr. Cloutier if there are applicants whose documents are waiting to be processed, applicants who are eligible for that now-discontinued subsidy.

Mr. Cloutier: That is right.

Mr. Alkenbrack: They have a perfect right to the subsidy.

Mr. Cloutier: Oh yes, there is no doubt about that. These payments would apply to claims relating to the 1965-66 season, as the last season under the plan.

Mr. Peddle: Would the gentleman know why such claims would have been delayed so long? He mentioned some that have just been received. What would account for them being received only now?

Mr. Cloutier: If I did mention "just received" it was a slip of the tongue. I do not know for a fact that they were just received. They could very well have been received early in the year, and since there have not been any supplementary estimates except the one item before Parliament in the fall, there

has been no opportunity for the Department to secure the authority for this item.

• 1630

Mr. Peddle: I seem to recall that when that program was in effect there was a definite time limit for applying for these.

Mr. Cloutier: Oh yes, and that time limit ceased with the the 1965-66 season.

Mr. Peddle: So therefore the claims have been pending for three or four years.

Mr. Cloutier: The approval of the application could have been made, but the individual could have been late in supplying the justification, the vouchers, and so on. This is the kind of thing that we are dealing with under this item.

Item 20b agreed to.

LEGISLATURE

The Senate

Vote 5b—General Administration $301,700

Casuals and Others $86,500

Telephones and Telegrams $8,000

Publishing Senate Debates, Queen's Printer $10,000

Printing of Other Publications $15,000

Expenses of Committees $179,200

Office Stationery, Supplies and Equipment $3,000

Mr. McCutcheon: In the Blue Book, Revised Estimates for 1968-69, we have an item here which is exactly the same as the 1967-68 figure and calls for expenses of committees of $15,000. In the Supplementary Estimates we have expenses of committees of the Senate, $179,200. When did the Senate take on all this extra activity, and what is it?

Mr. Cloutier: Actually, it is a fact that in the recent past the Senate has been much more active in committee work and the particular committees that require this appropriation are the Science Policy Committee, the Rules of the Senate Committee, and the Poverty Committee.

The Chairman: The Poverty Committee started only this year.

Mr. Cloutier: That is right.

The Chairman: The Science Committee is a new committee too.

Mr. McCutcheon: Yes, I am glad you refreshed my mind on that. I have no further questions.

Mr. Chairman: Vote 5b, carried? Mr. Alkenbrack?

Mr. Alkenbrack: I have just one question in connection with that. Mr. McCutcheon's question prompts this question: does the Senate get paid for committee services?

Mr. Cloutier: No. This is for the staff supporting the committees, the expert advice that they bring in and so on.

Item 5b agreed to.

House of Commons

On Item 15b—Expenses of the Canada-United States Inter-Parliamentary Group, of delegates attending other Inter-Parliamentary Conferences, expenses connected with visits of delegates to and from other legislatures, Canada's share of expenses of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association including the assessment for membership in the Association, and grants as detailed in the Estimates $10,435

Grant to Parliamentary Centre for Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade $10,435

Total, Legislature $312,135

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Thomson?

Mr. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Mr. Chairman, did this House of Commons item also include the expenses of senators who went on these trips?

Mr. Cloutier: No. The particular item for which there is a requirement here is shown in smaller print under the heavy characters: Grant to Parliamentary Centre for Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade.

Mr. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): I want to ask about the general thing, though. In connection with these foreign confrences, was this listed in reference only to the House of Commons members who went on these trips, or does this also include senators?

Mr. Cloutier: I would surmise sir, that the travelling expenses of the senators would have been carried by the Senate.

Mr. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): I see.

Mr. Gundlock: Mr. Chairman, may I ask a question?

The Chairman: Mr. Gundlock.

Mr. Gundlock: Would this also include expenses of the Minister?

Mr. Cloutier: I believe, sir, that the Minister's travelling expenses would have been carried by his department. I believe this is so.

Mr. Gundlock: I refer Mr. Chairman, to visits particularly to the United States of the Minister of Trade and Commerce, and particularly in connection with the International Wheat Agreement.

Mr. Cloutier: To the extent that these travels would have been really on departmen-

• 1635

tal business, my understanding is that these expenses would have been carried by the departmental vote of the minister concerned.

Mr. Gundlock: I appreciate that but nevertheless there must be some within the department.

Mr. Cloutier: Yes, there is a departmental administration vote under each ministry which carries provision for travelling expenses.

Mr. Gundlock: Could we have a rundown on that?

Mr. Cloutier: For which department? Are you referring to the Department of Trade and Commerce?

Mr. Gundlock: Yes.

Mr. Cloutier: In the 1968-69 estimates...

Mr. Gundlock: The International Wheat Agreement.

Mr. Cloutier: The estimates would not show the precise expenditures that were incurred in connection with any travel for that particular requirement.

Mr. Gundlock: No, but someone must know.

Mr. Cloutier: The department. This information could be obtained, but it is not provided for specifically in the estimates. The estimates are prepared a long time ahead of the start of the year, and they show the global requirements without...

Mr. Gundlock: Do you mean to tell me that they figure this out way before and the answers accumulate from that source?

Mr. Cloutier: No. I do not know specifically whether the particular trip that you are referring to was planned long advance or a short time in advance. What I am saying, sir, is that there is a provision in each departmental administration rule for travel expenses, and when travel expenses are incurred and expenses have to be paid they are usually paid from those monies.

Mr. Gundlock: We, so that was planned way ahead.

Mr. Cloutier: As I have indicated, I do not know for a fact that the particular trip you are referring to was planned way ahead, but in the normal operations of a department there is a regular requirement for travel by ministers and officials, and on the basis of past experience, plus any known new requirements in the course of the year, the provisions are estimated in the first instance and put into the estimates.

Mr. Gundlock: Well, Mr. Chairman, I wish to voice my objection particularly to this point. If those estimates are planned in advance, I wish to voice my objection, particularly on the point that I mentioned before.

The Chairman: Mr. Gundlock, I suggest we try to get the answer at our sitting tomorrow.

Mr. Gundlock: I think we have the answer Mr. Chairman, in all deference. I think we have the answer right now. This is planned well before the money is appropriated, and certainly we are experiencing the result of that particular visit.

The Chairman: Can we say that the item is carried on division?

Mr. Gillespie: May I ask one question which has to do with services to the Senate? I would like to know the cost of their telephone answering service. Can Mr. Cloutier tell us?

Mr. Cloutier: Could I suggest that you enquire from the Speaker of the Senate?

Mr. Gillespie: You have not got it?

Mr. Cloutier: No, I have not got it, I am sorry.

Mr. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Do you mean when the Senators are not there?

Mr. Gillespie: Yes.

The Chairman: Shall Vote 15b carry on division?

Item 15b agreed to on division.

MANPOWER AND IMMIGRATION

A—DEPARTMENT

Development and Utilization of Manpower

On Item 6b—To authorize in the 1968-69 and 1969-70 fiscal years the payment of undischarged commitments in respect of the 1967-68 and previous Municipal Winter Works Incentive Programs referred to in Manpower and Immigration Vote 6c, Appropriation Act No. 1, 1968 and to authorize the transfer of $499,999 from Manpower and Immigration Vote 5, Appropriation Act No. 4, 1968 for the purposes of this Vote —$1

Payments —$500,000

Less: Funds available in Manpower and Immigration Vote 5 of the Revised Estimates 1968-69 —$499,999

Total —1.

The Chairman: This is regarding the Municipal Winter Works Incentive Programs.

Mr. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): This is just in effect the tidying up of the winter works, as you tidied up the winter housing program before?

Mr. Cloutier: Yes, exactly, sir.

Mr. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): In this respect will we be done here?

Mr. Cloutier: This is our expectation, sir.

• 1640

Mr. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): That all applications will be processed.

Mr. Cloutier: This is our expectation. On the other hand, if the provinces can come forward later on with an additional amount, it will be put forward through another supplementary estimate. On the other hand, this supplementary estimate was put forward by the department after having canvassed the provinces.

The Chairman: Shall Vote 6b carry? Mr. Lambert?

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): Since we are going to be transferring half-a-million dollars from Immigration Vote 5 in Appropriation Act No. 4, and in the subsequent vote we are going to be transferring $18,840,000, where the appropriation originally was $154,449,000, is Mr. Cloutier in a position to tell us what the anticipated shortfall in this particular vote is going to be?

Mr. Cloutier: Yes. The two transfers are not of the same type. The first one, of $499,000, is an expected lapse. This is not a rearrangement of program at all; it is not a specific change in program. It is simply that the Department is not expecting to spend some parts of Vote 5 in the current year, and this money is available for offset.

If I may go on to the next item, which Mr. Lambert has referred to, this is a change in program to the extent that the provision for capital assistance paid to the provinces under the TVT (Technical Vocational Training) phase out was limited at $80 million. This created hardships in the cases of a few provinces which were expecting larger allocations and which had submitted to the Department claims in excess of the portion of the $80 million that would be applicable to them. The Department, by a voluntary decision, has curtailed some of the training activities it had originally planned to finance in the course of the year 1968-69, to make these funds available for this other purpose.

The object of Vote 10b is to secure Parliament's approval of these additional payments to the provinces on capital account instead of on training account. This was discussed with the provinces and the provinces indicated their concurrence in this change of direction, if you wish.

Mr. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): But it is due to a resulting change in program?

Mr. Cloutier: This is a voluntary rearrangement of priorities. It is in this respect that it is different from the former vote 5b where the offset merely represents a lapse of funds.

Item 6b agreed to.

On item 10b—Grants, Contributions and Subsidies in accordance with the terms and conditions specified in the sub-vote titles listed in the details of the Estimates—To authorize the transfer of $18,840,000 from Manpower and Immigration Vote 5, Appropriation Act. No. 4, 1968 for the purposes of this Vote—$1

Payments under agreements entered into with the provinces by the Minister of Manpower and Immigration with the approval of the Governor in Council pursuant to section 21 of the adult occupational training act for capital assistance

in the provision of training facilities—$19,700,000

Payments to provinces of undischarged commitments for providing training under technical and vocational training programs arising out of the arrangements made pursuant to section 22 of the adult occupational training act, as amended—$1,250,000

Total $20,950,000

Less:Funds available in Manpower and Immigration Vote 5 ($18,840,000) and in this vote ($2,109,999) of the Revised Estimates 1968-69—$20,949,999

Total $1

The Chairman: Mr. Alkenbrack?

Mr. Alkenbrack: I wish to ask Mr. Cloutier, Mr. Chairman, what is the difference between Section 21 and 22 of the Adult Occupational Training Act? Do you have that information with you sir? My question arises as the result of some local conditions.

Mr. Cloutier: Yes, I do, sir. Section 21 deals with courses offered under the new Adult

• 1640

Occupational Training Act (AOT). These are the courses to which the Department of Manpower and Immigration send candidates. The courses are run by the provinces and the Department pays to the provinces the cost of these courses.

Under the other item, for which there is a requirement of $1,250,000...

The Chairman: That is Section 22?

Mr. Cloutier: Yes. The explanation here is that these are for costs incurred prior, or at least up, to July 1968 for occupational training relating to the phasing out or assistance under the former Technical and Vocational Training Assistance Act.

The AOT program was started, I think, on April 1, 1968. It replaced the old Technical and Vocational Training Assistance Act. The transitional provisions in the statute provided that the Department of Manpower and Immigration would, under the old Act, pay all amounts owing to students in training on March 31, 1968. This $1,250,000 is the clean-up of that particular phase-out operation.

Mr. Alkenbrack: They are not discontinuing it altogether, are they?

Mr. Cloutier: No; the program has been completely re-oriented.

Mr. Alkenbrack: Yes.

Mr. Cloutier: It is now operated under the Adult Occupational Training Act instead of the oll Technical and Vocational Training Assistance Act.

Mr. Alkenbrack: Yes. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

My question arises as a result of an inquiry from my riding about the closest adult occupational training school. I forwarded that to the Prime Minister so that he would know their opinions and wishes in that regard.

Mr. Cloutier, you can assure us that this is not being discontinued? It is only to facilitate the progress of it?

Mr. Cloutier: No. Huge sums are provided in the estimates for the AOT courses.

Mr. Alkenbrack: Thank you.

Item 10b agreed to.

On Item 15b, Immigration:

Immigration

Vote 15b—Administration, Operation and Maintenance, including trans-oceanic and inland transportation and other assistance for immigrants and settlers subject to the approval of Treasury Board, including care en route and while awaiting employment—To extend the purposes of Manpower and Immigration Vote 15 of the Revised Estimates 1968-69 to authorize the provision of recoverable assistance to immigrants and settlers subject to the approval of Treasury Board, to authorize the transfer of $2,110,000 from Manpower and Immigration Vote 5, and $890,000 from Manpower and Immigration Vote 20, Appropriation Act. No. 4, 1968 for the purposes of this Vote and to provide an additional amounts of—$6,200,000

Trans-oceanic and inland transportation, recoverable and other assistance for immigrants and settlers, subject to the approval of Treasury Board, including care en route and while awaiting employment; and payments to the provinces, pursuant to agreements entered into with the approval of the Governor in Council in respect of expenses incurred by the provinces for indigent immigrants—$9,200,000

Less: Funds available in Manpower and Immigration Votes 5 and 20 of the Revised Estimates, 1968-69—$3,000,000
Total—$6,200,000

Mr. McCutcheon: This is a new item, is it not, Mr. Cloutier?

Mr. Cloutier: No; it is not a new item, but it is for a very specific purpose.

Mr. McCutcheon: Is that purpose related to Czech refugees?

Mr. Cloutier: That is it, sir.

Mr. McCutcheon: For the benefit of the Committee could you tell us just what happens. How does this thing work? Out of gentle curiosity I am interested.

The Chairman: It is a good question.

Mr. Cloutier: The prospective immigrant goes to the immigration office and applies. I think most of the traffic was handled through Vienna.

For the purposes of this particular Czech refugee program, as I believe the Minister of Manpower and Immigration has indicated in the House, the usual rules were somewhat relaxed because we were dealing with a specific and very difficult problem, and these people were brought to Canada on an assisted basis.

Loans were made for assisting in transportation, and grants were given.

When they arrived here they were given assistance to establish themselves. They were given courses in language. Every effort was made by the Department to try to integrate them as quickly as possible into the economic and social life of the country.

• 1650

The program is expected to reach some 11,800 people. I think applications were discontinued, if I correctly remember the Minister's statement, early in January. Therefore, Czechs who now want to come in would do so under the regular programs of the Department and these programs provide for similar assistance to other immigrants who are in need of assistance to come to Canada, and when they are here there are provisions for emergency payments when the fellow is having bad luck.

The Chairman: It includes care en route and while awaiting employment?

Mr. Cloutier: That is right.

The Chairman: Mr. Southam?

Mr. Southam: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Further to Mr. McCutcheon's question, you stated that this is a specific item for Vote 15b to look after our Czech refugees. The last line of this vote mentions a number. It looks to be a tidying-up operation, as well:

> ...Appropriation Act No. 4, 1968 for the purposes of this Vote and to provide an additional amount of—$6,200,000

What was the total amount involved?

Mr. Cloutier: Yes, sir; the total amount involved was $9.2 million. It is shown in the detail in the lighter character on page 14.

Mr. Southam: In other words, this $9.2 million is approximately the total amount we were involved in in accommodating these Czech refugees last year; is that so?

Mr. Cloutier: No, that is not quite accurate. The total amount was $8.6 million; the other $600,000 is expenditures for emergency assistance to regular immigrants, not the Czech immigrants, the requirement for which was heavier than had been anticipated.

Mr. Southam: Will any of this amount be recoverable at a later date?

Mr. Cloutier: Yes, sir, and there is provision for this. Under the assisted passage program of the Department it is largely on a recoverable basis.

Mr. Southam: Have you any estimate now, sir, of what this amount might be out of the total of $9.2 million?

Mr. Cloutier: We have asked this question of the Department in relation to examining this requirement before it was recommended to the Treasury Board and before it was printed in the Estimates, and while the Department could not give us any precise information they indicated that the level of technical competence and, indeed, the large proportion of professional people involved in this movement was much higher than the normal mix of the immigration program. Based on the experience of the Hungarian program which took place in 1956 and which is not dissimilar from this, both in terms of the humanitarian problem as well as the wealth of skills of the individuals concerned, they expect to recover a large proportion.

Mr. Southam: In other words, as well as being essentially a humanitarian effort, from an economic point of view it has been . . .

Mr. Cloutier: It is not a complete grant.

The Chairman: Mr. Gundlock?

Mr. Gundlock: Mr. Chairman, the question in my mind has nothing to do with the figures under the Item, but I find this, Mr. Chairman: People were not allowed to come to Canada—I will put it quite frankly and briefly—until this program came into effect and then they were allowed. I am only talking about the principle. There are people from the Czechoslovakia that were not allowed to come to Canada until this program came into effect, and then they came and their relatives too.

The Chairman: I think that was an urgency program on account of what was going on in the . . .

Mr. Gundlock: How would you apply that to an ordinary program, Mr. Chairman?

Mr. Cloutier: The bulk of these 11,800 immigrants I do not think . .

• 1655

Mr. Gundlock: If I may interject, Mr. Chairman, perhaps the 800 had applications beforehand and were refused.

Mr. Cloutier: This I do not know, sir. I do not know whether any of these 11,800 had been refused.

Mr. Gundlock: Well, some of them had.

Mr. Cloutier: I do not know this for a fact, sir.

Mr. Gundlock: This is all I am asking, Mr. Chairman. How, then, does the principle apply?

Mr. Cloutier: The relaxation of the normal procedures in the Czech refugee program took place because of the need to bring these people quickly into Canada and not have them stay in staging centres for an extremely long time. I am quite sure that the Immigration Department did not knowingly allow known undesirables to come to Canada under this program.

Mr. Gundlock: But the point is that some of these people who were refused previous to this grant are now here home free.

Mr. Cloutier: I have no knowledge of this, sir, so I cannot comment on it.

The Chairman: Mr. Perrault?

Mr. Perrault: Mr. Chairman, this policy is perfectly consistent with policies adopted by previous governments regardless of political orientation. This is part of Canada's traditional policy of providing asylum and refuge for political refugees and people who have been subjected to unusual emergency situations, and I find it difficult to understand how members of the Committee can question this program in view of the unanimous support which was given to it when it was introduced a few months ago.

The Chairman: Mr. Lambert?

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): With the greatest respect, Mr. Chairman, Mr. Gundlock is not questioning the program. What he is questioning is, how is it that people who previously had been refused by the application of one criterion or another by our Department of Immigration are brought in because of this emergency?

Mr. Perrault: Mr. Chairman, I am aware of that. I know it has been said here. I am aware of the fact. This question was not raised by the parties at the time of the emergency because they are aware of the fact that in the past, regardless of government, we have relaxed restrictions under these exceptional circumstances and there is nothing that is suspect about this program at all.

Mr. Gundlock: Mr. Chairman, I am not saying that at all. What I am trying to say is that certain people are here under the last program. And under the former program they could not come. What I am looking forward to, as a matter of fact, and what I am asking is whether we may look forward to some relaxation in ordinary times. That is all I am saying.

The Chairman: I do not believe you have the right witness to answer your questions. It is a policy matter.

Mr. Gundlock: This is it exactly, Mr. Chairman, exactly.

The Chairman: Shall Vote 15b carry?

Mr. Alkenbrack: I have one question I want to ask arising out of the remarks that have just been made by some of the members of the Committee and bearing out the

remarks made by Mr. Lambert. Since the government has discontinued and killed the main forum of information and debate by discontinuing the grand Committee of the Whole of the House of Commons, this is the only place we have to ask questions pertaining to these items. My last question is, of these 11,800 people approximately how many are gainfully employed? Do you have that record?

• 1700

Mr. Cloutier: I do not have that record, sir.

Mr. Alkenbrack: Would you have the obverse of it, how many are unemployed?

Mr. Cloutier: No, sir. I know for a fact that because these people have come in quite recently a good number—and I am sorry I have no figures—are still learning the languages.

Mr. Alkenbrack: Yes.

Mr. Cloutier: They are not employed, but can we say they are unemployed?

Mr. Alkenbrack: Personally, I welcome these people here.

The Chairman: Mr. Lambert?

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): In this connection there was some discussion in the House and in the press recently about the problems of learning languages in the Province of Quebec, but it is not that I am getting at. While these people are learning a language, whether it is English or French matters not, they are under some form of subsistence or living allowance. Now, would that living allowance and the expense of the courses they are taking be chargeable to this particular Vote?

Mr. Cloutier: Yes, sir.

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): Shall we say this is a global settlement program for the 11,800 Czech refugees?

Mr. Cloutier: This is my understanding, sir.

The Chairman: The wording here

> ...including care en route and while awaiting employment;

may contain the answer to your question.

Mr. McCutcheon: I have just one short supplementary question and I do not know whether Mr. Cloutier is the proper witness for this. On page 296 under Item 15.

The Chairman: Of what year?

Mr. McCutcheon: 1968-69. We have an item under Immigration of $23,692,000. This normally, I am led to believe, would cover our usual immigration group that runs at 150,000 or 170,000, maybe as many as 200,000 per year. Now have 11,800 who are costing 25 per cent of that. What causes the extra per capita expenditure? Is it the speed with which we had to operate?

Mr. Cloutier: Not only this but the resources of these people when they came out of their countries. You know that many just walked out.

Mr. McCutcheon: That is what I am referring to by the speed.

Mr. Cloutier: Normally the prospective immigrant is assisted in coming only to the extent that he needs assistance. I suppose I am conjecturing here to a certain extent but if you are a national of another country and you think that you are going to emigrate you bring your capital together and you come out with it.

Mr. McCutcheon: This, in effect, was my question, Mr. Cloutier.

Mr. Cloutier: This program is very exceptional.

Mr. McCutcheon: I did not phrase it properly but what I had in mind was the fact that they just came out with a handbag.

Mr. Cloutier: That is right.

The Chairman: Mr. Perrault.

Mr. Perrault: The questions asked here are important ones and it seems to me they might well be questions to the Minister in the House, perhaps written rather than oral. When the main estimates are next dealt with and the Minister is present before the Committee, perhaps he should be asked about the policy matters that have been raised today.

Mr. McCutcheon: Thank you very much, Mr. Perrault, for your instructions, but the purpose of asking questions is to get answers.

Mr. Perrault: I know but these are not instructions. It is a suggestion that this is an area to be explored more fully and obviously we are not going to be able to get all the facts

in this Committee as constituted. It is just impossible to obtain all of the answers we would like to have.

Mr. McCutcheon: We have an excellent witness whom I would like to compliment right at this time for answering our questions.

Mr. Perrault: Yes, we have an excellent witness but when a member of the Committee asks about policy and suggests that policy changes be put into effect, obviously we cannot have a policy statement here, can we?

Mr. McCutcheon: I have not heard that suggestion.

Mr. Perrault: It was just suggested about three minutes ago, had the member been listening attentively.

The Chairman: Mr. Gundlock.

Mr. Gundlock: Mr. Perrault has proposed the answer. Could we have the Minister as a witness?

• 1705

Mr. Perrault: I am not objecting to that.

The Chairman: Do you prefer that we stand Item 15b and that we get in touch with the Minister?

Some hon. Members: No, it is not sufficiently important.

Mr. Perrault: It is the only way to obtain the information.

Item 15b agreed to.

MANPOWER AND IMMIGRATION

Program Development

Vote 25b— Grants in accordance with Grants, Contributions and Subsidies as detailed in the Estimates—

section 10 of the adult occupational training act for manpower training research projects—to extend the purposes to provide in the 1968-69 and 1969-70 fiscal years for payment of undischarged commitments arising out of agreements respecting assistance in manpower training research projects made under the technical and vocational training assistance act—$1

The Chairman: What is Section 10 of the Adult Occupational Training Act, Mr. Cloutier?

Mr. Cloutier: Under the former Technical and Vocational Training Assistance Act provision was made for payments to provinces for assistance in manpower training research projects. Some portion of the payments was normally held back until the approved projects were completed to satisfaction. The Adult Occupational Training Act makes similar provision but does not provide for the payment of undischarged commitments under the former agreements. Claims are now being held in the department covering most of the outstanding projects and there will be still more claims received. The reason for this particular wording of the item is to extend the purposes to provide for these payments in both 1968-69 and 1969-70, so that this is another clean-up operation, really.

The Chairman: Mr. Alkenbrack.

Mr. Alkenbrack: Mr. Chairman, if I may interject here, I believe this is the answer to my previous question regarding the school.

Mr. Cloutier: The particular school you were referring to.

Mr. Alkenbrack: Yes.

Mr. Cloutier: This may very well be.

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): Mr. Cloutier, is there a limitation under Section 10 as to time? When we read the heading of this item—and it is a $1 item—there is no transfer of funds and it almost looks as though it were a quasi-statutory extension.

Mr. Cloutier: I suppose you could interpret it that way, sir. There are sufficient funds provided in the estimates to allow the payments for manpower training research under the Adult Occupational Training Act as well as the outstanding claims that have been received relating to endeavours undertaken under the previous act.

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): Why I am concerned about that is that on page 315 of the 1968-69 Blue Book we have half a million dollars listed for this particular Section 10. Then when we look at the wording on page 14 of the Supplementary Estimates for Item 25b we have the main heading and then it says:

...to extend the purposes to provide...

Mr. Cloutier: Yes. Section 10 of the Adult Occupational Training Act covers only agreements made under it. When this legislation

was adopted, there was no provision to continue paying claims that had arisen under the old legislation.

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): I see. Well, I am right when I say that this is really a statutory extension.

Mr. Cloutier: You are, sir.

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): All right. I am going to flag this one, too.

Item 25b agreed to.

NATIONAL HEALTH AND WELFARE

A—DEPARTMENT

Medical Services

Vote 20b—Administration, Operation and Maintenance—To authorize the transfer of $1,879,999 from National Health and Welfare Vote 41, Appropriation Act No. 4, 1968 for the purposes of this Vote—

Hospital, Doctors' and Other Professional and Special Services—$1,880,000

Less: Funds a vailable in National Health and Welfare Vote 41 of the Revised Estimates, 1968-69—$1,879,999

The Chairman: Could we have an explanation, Mr. Cloutier?

Mr. Cloutier: Yes. The increase is required to provide medical and hospital services to Indians and Eskimos. This increase is brought about by increases in hospital per diem rates, hospital co-insurance premiums not included in the 1968-69 estimates that were implemented in Saskatchewan and Alberta, an increase in professional fees, consultants' costs at a higher level than originally estimated and an additional cost because of Medicare not becoming effective in most provinces during 1968-69.

The Chairman: Are there any questions?

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): Could we get Mr. Chrétien in here?

Mr. Cloutier: This is not an item under his ministry, sir.

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): I realize this is Mr. Munro's department but we have deferred to Indian Affairs and this has to do

• 1710

with that. If one looks at Item 20, which is the master item for this supplementary item, one will see that it deals with health services for persons residing on Indian reserves other than Indians, and to residents of the Territories other than Indians and Eskimos.

Could you give me a better explanation of Item 20 in the Appropriation Act on page 18? I am sorry, but it seems that the definition of Item 20 refers to treaty non-Indians and non-Indian residents in the Territories. This may be for medical services to non-Indians.

Mr. Cloutier: This is in the Indian Affairs estimates?

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): No, it is under National Health and Welfare. If you look at Item 20...

The Chairman: Are you referring to the Blue Book?

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): It would appear to be the same in the Blue Book. It is on page 341 in 1968-69, and it is Item 20 on page 18 of the Appropriation Act.

Mr. Cloutier: Yes, sir. My recollection of this item is that the medical services, the staff and facilities, are at the disposal of the whole population of the Northwest Territories simply because by and large there are no other facilities. The non-Indians and non-Eskimos receive service on a fee for service basis, and the revenues that you see listed in the estimates for 1968-69 on page 357 indicate that revenues for 1967-68 are estimated at $6 million. In other words, the authority for the Department of National Health and Welfare to provide these services to non-Indians and non-Eskimos is provided for in that wording, so that the charges made to the non-Indians and non-Eskimos are on a recoverable basis.

Mr. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): There would be a portion they would never get.

Mr. Cloutier: What portion do you mean, sir?

Mr. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): They pay for a part of the services themselves, but in effect therewould be some that would be non-collectable.

Mr. Cloutier: I would imagine so. This is quite possible.

Mr. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Is this listed in the cost?

Mr. Cloutier: This is an estimate of the revenue, and to the extent that some services are rendered and accounts are sent out and they are not collectable, they would have to be written off through the Treasury Board item that we considered yesterday morning.

• 1715

Item 20b agreed to.

Welfare Services

Vote 40b—Administration, Operation and Maintenance, including recoverable expenditures on behalf of the Canada Pension Plan, and grants as detailed in the Estimates—To authorize the transfer of $124,999 from National Health and Welfare Vote 10, Appropriation Act No. 4, 1968 for the purposes of this Vote—

Grants to welfare and related organizations as detailed in the estimates

Canadian Welfare Council—$125,000

Less: Funds available in National Health and Welfare Vote 10 of the Revised Estimates, 1968-69—$124,999

Total—$1

Mr. Gundlock: May I ask a question which actually relates to the previous one by Mr. Lambert. May we have an explanation relating to the treaty Indians within the provinces?

Mr. Cloutier: You mean within the province?

Mr. Gundlock: Yes. You were speaking earlier about the Territories and I am now asking about within the provinces and under treaty.

Mr. Cloutier: These people receive medical services through the medical services vote, but outside of the Territories there are sufficient facilities for the non-Indians and non-Eskimos, and there are probably very few ...

Mr. Gundlock: Non-Metis.

Mr. Cloutier: Yes. As a rule they do not receive service from the medical service of Health and Welfare.

Mr. Gundlock: Within the treaties?

Mr. Cloutier: No. If they are within the treaties they are Indians and they would receive medical services through this appropriation.

Mr. Gundlock: They have received them, they will receive them in the future and they do so now, period?

Mr. Cloutier: That is my understanding, sir.

Item 40b agreed to.

PRIVY COUNCIL

A—PRIVY COUNCIL

Privy Council Office

Vote 10b—General Administration—

Salaries and Wages—$340,000

Travelling Expenses—$45,000

Telephones, Telegrams and Other Communication Services—$60,000

Professional and Special Services—$299,000

Rental of Office Equipment—$10,000

Office Stationery, Supplies and Equipment—$20,000

Acquisition of Furniture—$10,000

Total $784,000

The Chairman: Are there any questions?

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): How many people would this represent? As I see it, I think it is an increase of 94 people in the Privy Council staff.

Mr. Cloutier: Yes, sir. This is made up of the Cabinet secretariat, the Prime Minister's office, as well as the staff for the President of the Privy Council and ministers without portfolio.

Mr. Gillespie: Does this cover all classes of employees, technical and right down to operational?

Mr. Cloutier: Yes, sir.

The Chairman: Right down to clerks.

Mr. Cloutier: Yes, these are optional people.

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): Is my understanding not correct that within the Privy Council there are a number of people who are hired as per Treasury Board minute —what they used to call the old Order in Council—but there are also some people that are hired under special contract.

Mr. Cloutier: If they are employed under contract they would not appear under Salaries and Wages, they would appear under Professional and Special Services.

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): I see. This is where the item is almost the equivalent, $299,000.

Mr. Cloutier: Actually, the $299,000 is related to the task force on information services headed by D'Iberville Fortier.

Mr. Southam: Mr. Chairman, I would like some information with respect to Item 10b, General Administration. Does this item cover what we refer to as the regional desk operation of the government, or is that a separate item?

Mr. Cloutier: No, I would expect that this is covered in here, sir.

Mr. Southam: Have you any breakdown of what that might be?

Mr. Cloutier: I am afraid I have not, sir.

The Chairman: There is a question on that on Orders of the Day. It is not answered yet but the question is there.

Mr. Alkenbrack: Is the extra staff now required by the Prime Minister in item 4, the $299,000 item?

Mr. Cloutier: No, sir, that is provided under Salaries and Wages.

• 1720

Mr. Alkenbrack: Salaries and Wages.

Mr. Cloutier: Item 4, in the amount of $299,000 is related to the task force on information services.

Mr. Alkenbrack: The extra staff of the Prime Minister comes out of the first item then?

Mr. Cloutier: That is right.

Mr. Alkenbrack: The item for $340,000.

Mr. Cloutier: That is right, sir.

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): I think the Committee will be interested in the not so gentle creep in expenses here. At this point we had initially a provision at page 380, with detail at page 384, of $3,117,300 for the general administration of the Privy Council office. There is now a supplementary estimate of $784,000. If you take away the $300,000 which is, I suppose, generally attributable to the task force on government information services, it leaves us about $484,000. Then we end up with a provision in 1969-70 of $3,468,000, which appears at page 296 of the 1969-70 Blue Book.

Mr. Perrault: Where is your $3 million figure. I am now at page 296.

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): For 1969-70?

The Chairman: Have you the book for 1969-70?

Mr. Perrault: I have $5,681,134.

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): But look at item 10. This is Vote 10b which is the final supplementary for 10. Incidentally, it is very instructive. If you go to page 299, under the detail of Vote 10 for 1969-70, you will vote that the personnel will have gone up from 209 to 287. I think the creep has now become almost a leap and bound.

Item 10b agreed to.

PRIVY COUNCIL

Vote 15b—Expenses of the Royal Commissions listed in the Detail of Estimates $200,000

Expenses of the Royal Commission on Bilingualism and Biculturalism $200,000

Expenses of the Royal Commission on Taxation $13,000

Total $213,000

Less: Funds available in the Revised Estimates, 1968-69 $13,000

Total $200,000

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton-West): The Laurendeau-Dunton Commission requests a supplementary vote for $200,000. Can we foresee when the expenditures for this Commission will cease, since it has already published three reports?

Mr. Cloutier: Mr. Lambert, the Estimates for 1969-1970, provide for an expenditure of $755,000, on page 300.

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): Yes. I agree. So, we are far from being through with all this?

Mr. Cloutier: There will be other expenditures because they are already included in the Estimates.

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): Yes, I see that. We expect that there will be some for at least one more year.

• 1725

Mr. Cloutier: One more year.

Vote 15b agreed to.

PUBLIC WORKS

Accommodation Services

Vote 15b—Construction, acquisition, major repairs and improvements of, and plans and sites for, public buildings (including expenditures on works on other than federal property); provided that no contract may be entered into for new construction with an estimated total cost of $50,000 or more unless the project is individually listed in the Details of the Estimates—$1

Newfoundland

Labrador City—Housing for Federal Government Employees—$80,000

British Columbia

Port Coquitlam—Public Building—Addition and improvements—$108,000

Total—$188,000

Less: Funds available in the Revised Estimates, 1968-69—$187,999

Total $1

The Chairman: Is there anyone from Newfoundland or B.C. here?

[*Interpretation*]

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): Have you transferred funds for this purpose?

Mr. Cloutier: No, it is already provided in the same vote, Mr. Lambert.

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): Yes, just a minute. Since it is a vote of $1, it must surely be a re-allocation of some funds?

Mr. Cloutier: No. During the building season, there are often projects that start a little later or that take a little longer to get started and then, the funds become available and, on the other hand, projects that had been intended for later can be started earlier. These items are in the Estimates because the vote itself provides that no contract can be signed unless it is for a new construction that would cost more than $50,000 unless the project appears in the Estimates.

Mr. Chairman: Shall vote 15b carry? Mr. Southam.

[*English*]

Mr. Southam: May I put a question just before we pass this item. It goes on to say in Vote 15b "Construction, acquisition, major repairs and improvements of, and plans and sites for, public buildings (including expenditures on works other than on federal property)." What does this refer to?

Mr. Cloutier: Offhand I cannot give you an example, but I probably could find one in the listing that appeared in the Estimates.

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): Mr. Cloutier, would that not include where you have a leased building and one of the conditions of the lease is that the lessee will be responsible for renovations and modifications.

Mr. Cloutier: Yes, that is it.

Mr. Southam: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

The Chairman: Shall Vote 15b carry?

Mr. Perrault: I just wanted some detail on the housing for government employees at Labrador City?

Mr. Cloutier: This is in connection with the construction of a few houses. Labrador City, as I understand it, is more or less a company town, and the company was not prepared to make available housing for the government employees. I believe we are dealing here with postal employees and their families, and this is providing for that construction.

Mr. Perrault: Thank you. How many houses, have you any idea?

Mr. Cloutier: I do not have that information, sir. The assistant postmaster with a family of six has remained in a trailer home 40 x 10 under trying conditions. An 8 year old girl is sharing a 10 x 6 bedroom with three boys, and that sort of thing. I do not have any information on the size of the family of the postmaster himself.

Mr. Perrault: It is for more than one family though?

Mr. Cloutier: Yes, sir. It is a four bedroom house, and a three bedroom house.

Mr. Peddle: Two houses?

Mr. Cloutier: Two houses.

The Chairman: This $80,000?

Mr. Cloutier: That is the cost of construction over there.

Item 15b agreed to.

The Chairman: Gentlemen, as the House has adjourned you probably wish to adjourn as well. There is a meeting tomorrow morning at 9.30 a.m. We will begin with the Harbours and Rivers Engineering Services, Vote 20b.

OFFICIAL BILINGUAL ISSUE
HOUSE OF COMMONS

First Session
Twenty-eighth Parliament, 1968-69

FASCICULE BILINGUE OFFICIEL
CHAMBRE DES COMMUNES

Première session de la
vingt-huitième législature, 1968-1969

STANDING COMMITTEE
ON

MISCELLANEOUS ESTIMATES

COMITÉ PERMANENT
DES

PRÉVISIONS BUDGÉTAIRES EN GÉNÉRAL

Chairman M. Fernand E. Leblanc *Président*

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS
AND EVIDENCE

PROCÈS-VERBAUX ET
TÉMOIGNAGES

No. 9

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 1969

LE JEUDI 27 FÉVRIER 1969

Respecting
Supplementary Estimates (B) for the fiscal year ending March 31, 1969

Concernant
Budget Supplémentaire (B) de l'année financière se terminant le 31 mars 1969

Witnesses:

(See Minutes of Proceedings)

Témoins:

(Voir Procès-Verbeaux)

The Queen's Printer, Ottawa, 1969
L'Imprimeur de la Reine, Ottawa, 1969

29886—1

STANDING COMMITTEE
ON
MISCELLANEOUS ESTIMATES

COMITÉ PERMANENT
DES
PRÉVISIONS BUDGÉTAIRES
EN GÉNÉRAL

Chairman: M. Fernand-E. Leblanc *Président.*
Vice-Chairman: M. Aurélien Noël *Vice-président.*

and Messrs. et MM.

Alkenbrack,
Gervais,
Gillespie,
Goode,
Guay (*Lévis*),
Gundlock,
Lambert,
Marchand
(*Kamloops-Cariboo*),
McCutcheon,
Nystrom,
Paproski,
Peddle,
Penner,
[2] Perrault,
Robinson,
[1] Rochon,
Rodrigue,
Thomson
(*Battleford-Kindersley*)—20.

Le secrétaire du Comité,
D. E. Levesque
Clerk of the Committee.

Pursuant to S.O. 65(4)(*b*) Conformément à l'article 65 (4)(*b*) du Règlement

[1] M. Roy (*Timmins*) a remplacé M. Rochon le 27 février 1969
[2] M. Crossman a remplacé M. Perrault le 27 février 1969

REPORTS TO THE HOUSE

THURSDAY, February 27, 1969

The Standing Committee on Miscellaneous Estimates has the honour to present its

THIRD REPORT

Pursuant to its Order of Reference of Monday, February 24, 1969, your Committee has considered the following items listed in the Supplementary Estimates (B) for the fiscal year ending March 31, 1969:

Vote 38b, relating to the Department of Industry and Trade and Commerce;

Votes 5b and 20b, relating to the Department of Labour;

Votes 5b and 15b, relating to Legislature;

Votes 6b, 10b, 15b and 25b, relating to the Department of Manpower and Immigration;

Votes 20b and 40b, relating to the Department of National Health and Welfare;

Votes 10b and 15b, relating to Privy Council;

Vote 15b, relating to the Department of Public Works.

Your Committee commends them to the House.

A copy of the relevant Minutes of Proceedings and Evidence (*Issue No. 8*) is tabled.

Respectfully submitted,

RAPPORTS À LA CHAMBRE

Le jeudi 27 février 1969

Le Comité permanent des prévisions budgétaires en général a l'honneur de présenter son

TROISIÈME RAPPORT

Conformément à l'ordre de renvoi du lundi 24 février 1969, le Comité a examiné les postes suivants du budget supplémentaire (B) de l'année financière se terminant le 31 mars 1969:

Le crédit n° 38b concernant le ministère de l'Industrie et du Commerce;

Les crédits n°s 5b et 20b concernant le ministère du Travail;

Les crédits n°s 5b et 15b concernant le Service législatif;

Les crédits n°s 6b, 10b, 15b et 25b concernant le ministère de la Main-d'œuvre et de l'Immigration;

Les crédits n°s 20b et 40b concernant le ministère de la Santé nationale et du Bien-être social;

Les crédits n°s 10b et 15 b concernant le Conseil privé;

Le crédit n° 15b concernant le ministère des Travaux publics.

Le Comité les recommande à l'approbation de la Chambre.

Un exemplaire des procès-verbaux et témoignages s'y rapportant (*fascicule n° 8*) est déposé.

Respectueusement soumis,

Le président,
FERNAND E. LEBLANC,
Chairman.

FRIDAY, February 28, 1969.

The Standing Committee on Miscellaneous Estimates has the honour to present its

FOURTH REPORT

Pursuant to its Order of Reference of Monday, February 24, 1969, your Com-

Le vendredi 28 février 1969.

Le Comité permanent des prévisions budgétaires en général a l'honneur de présenter son

QUATRIÈME RAPPORT

Conformément à l'ordre de renvoi du lundi 24 février 1969, le Comité a examiné

29886—1½

mittee has considered the following items listed in the Supplementary Estimates (B) for the fiscal year ending March 31, 1969:

Votes 20b, 25b and 30b relating to the Department of Public Works;

Vote 10b relating to the Department of Regional Development;

Votes 1b and 2b relating to the Department of Secretary of State;

Vote 40b relating to Canadian Radio-Television Commission;

Vote 1b relating to the Department of the Solicitor General;

Votes 7b, 8b, 15b and 16b relating to the Department of Supply and Services;

Votes 3b, 15b, 20b and 40b relating to the Department of Transport;

Votes 57b, 60b and 65b relating to the Canadian Transport Commission;

Votes 75b and 77b relating to National Harbours Board;

Votes 30b and 35b relating to the Department of Veterans Affairs;

Votes 5b, 20b, 30b, 35b and 36b relating to the Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development;

Vote 12b relating to the Department of Labour;

Vote L3b relating to the Department of Energy, Mines and Resources;

Vote L22b relating to the Department of External Affairs;

Vote L27b relating to the Department of Finance;

Vote L32b relating to the Department of Fisheries and Forestry;

Votes L35b and L65b relating to the Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development;

Vote L82b relating to the Department of Industry, Trade and Commerce;

Vote L83b relating to the Department of National Revenue;

Vote L103b relating to the Department of the Solicitor General;

les postes suivants du budget supplémentaire (B) de l'année financière se terminant le 31 mars 1969:

Les crédits n°s 20b, 25b et 30b concernant le ministère des Travaux publics;

Le crédit n° 10b concernant le ministère de l'Expansion économique régionale;

Les crédits n°s 1b et 2b concernant le secrétariat d'État;

Le crédit n° 40b concernant le Conseil de la Radio-télévision canadienne;

Le crédit n° 1b concernant le ministère du Solliciteur général;

Les crédits n°s 7b, 8b, 15b et 16b concernant le ministère des Approvisionnements et Services;

Les crédits n°s 3b, 15b, 20b et 40b concernant le ministère des Transports;

Les crédits n°s 57b, 60b et 65b concernant la Commission canadienne des transports;

Les crédits n°s 75b et 77b concernant le Conseil des ports nationaux;

Les crédits n°s 30b et 35b concernant le ministère des Affaires des anciens combattants;

Les crédits n°s 5b, 20b, 30b, 35b et 36b concernant le ministère des Affaires indiennes et du Nord canadien;

Le crédit n° 12b concernant le ministère du Travail;

Le crédit n° L3b concernant le ministère de l'Énergie, des Mines et des Ressources;

Le crédit n° L22b concernant le ministère des Affaires extérieures;

Le crédit n° L27b concernant le ministère des Finances;

Le crédit n° L32b concernant le ministère des Pêches et Forêts;

Les crédits n^{os} L35b et L65b concernant le ministère des Affaires indiennes et du Nord canadien;

Le crédit n° L82b concernant le ministère de l'Industrie et du Commerce;

Le crédit n° L83b concernant le ministère du Revenu national.

Le crédit n° L103b concernant le ministère du Solliciteur général;

Vote L104b relating to the Department of Supply and Services;

Votes L107b and L110b relating to the Department of Transport;

Votes L116b, L117b, L118b and L119b relating to Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation;

Your Committee commends them to the House.

1. Your Committee expresses its concern at the extensive use of $1.00 items for the purpose of statutory amendments particularly in final supplementary estimates which are under time limit as to examination in the standing committee and for debate in the House. Appropriate legislative amendments should be made in all but the most exceptional and urgent cases.

2. Your Committee also noted with concern an even greater use of $1.00 items for the transfer of monies from one account to another. In a number of cases an underexpended item served as a prolific source of funds for unrelated purposes in the same ministry.

A copy of the relevant Minutes of Proceedings and Evidence (*Issue No. 9*) is tabled.

Respectfully submitted,

Le crédit n° L104b concernant le ministère des Approvisionnements et Services;

Les crédits n^{os} L107b et L110b concernant le ministère des Transports;

Les crédits n^{os} L116b, L117b, L118b et L119b concernant la Société centrale d'hypothèques et de logement.

Le Comité les recommande à l'approbation de la Chambre.

1. Le Comité exprime son inquiétude au sujet de l'emploi très répandu de postes de $1.00 aux fins d'amendements statutaires surtout dans le budget supplémentaire des dépenses où une limite de temps est imposée quant à l'examen par le Comité permanent et pour les débats en Chambre. Des amendements législatifs appropriés devraient être faits dans tous les cas, sauf ceux qui sont exceptionnels et urgents.

2. Le Comité a aussi noté avec inquiétude l'emploi encore plus répandu de postes de $1.00 pour le transfert de fonds d'un compte à un autre. Dans nombre de cas, un poste non-utilisé a servi de source fertile de fonds pour des fins non-connexes dans le même ministère.

Un exemplaire des procès-verbaux et témoignages s'y rapportant (*fascicule n° 9*) est déposé.

Respectueusement soumis,

Le président,
FERNAND E. LEBLANC,
Chairman.

(*Text*)

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

THURSDAY, February 27, 1969.
(9)

The Standing Committee on Miscellaneous Estimates met this day at 9.45 a.m. The Chairman, Mr. Fernand Leblanc, presiding.

Members present: Messrs. Alkenbrack, Gillespie, Goode, Gundlock, Lambert (*Edmonton West*), Leblanc (*Laurier*), Marchand (*Kamloops-Cariboo*), McCutcheon, Ouellet, Paproski, Peddle, Penner, Perrault, Robinson, Rodrigue, Thomson (*Battleford-Kindersley*)—(16).

Witness: Mr. Sylvain Cloutier, Assistant Secretary, Treasury Board.

The Chairman called Vote 20b, Department of Public Works and the Committee continued the study of Supplementary Estimates (B) for the fiscal year ending March 31, 1969.

After examination the following votes were carried:

20b—$1.00, 25b—$1.00 and 30b—$1.00 relating to Public Works; 10b—$5,585,000 relating to Regional Development was carried on Division; 1b—$361,940 and 2b—$4,728,748 relating to Secretary of State; 40b—$250,000 relating to Canadian Radio-Television Commission was carried on Division; 1b—$1.00 relating to Solicitor General; 7b—$1.00, 8b—$1.00, 15b—$1.00 and 16b—$1.00 relating to Supply Services; 3b—$1.00, 15b—$12,504,000, 20b—$1,000,000 and 40b—$1.00 relating to Transport; 57b—$1.00, 60b—$1.00 and 65b—$1.00 relating to the Canadian Transport Commission; 75b—$1.00 and 77b—$1.00 relating to National Harbours Board; 30b—$1.00 and 35b—$1.00 relating to Veterans Affairs.

At 12 o'clock noon the Committee adjourned to 3.30 p.m., this day.

(*Traduction*)

PROCÈS-VERBAUX

Le JEUDI 27 février 1969
(9)

Le Comité permanent des Prévisions budgétaires en général se réunit en ce jour, à 9 h. 45, sous la présidence de M. Fernand Leblanc, président.

Présents: MM. Alkenbrack, Gillespie, Goode, Gundlock, Lambert (*Edmonton-ouest*), Leblanc (*Laurier*), Marchand (*Kamloops-Cariboo*), McCutcheon, Ouellet, Paproski, Peddle, Penner, Perrault, Robinson, Rodrigue, Thomson (*Battleford-Kindersley*—(16).

Témoins: M. Sylvain Cloutier, secrétaire adjoint au Conseil du Trésor.

Le président propose l'étude du crédit 20*b*, du ministère des Travaux publics, et le Comité poursuit l'étude du Budget supplémentaire (B) de l'année financière se terminant le 31 mars 1969.

Après examen, on adopte les crédits suivants: 20*b*—$1.00, 25*b*—$1.00 et 30*b*—$1.00 des Travaux publics; 10*b*—$5,585,000 du Développement régional (adopté à la majorité des voix); 1*b*—$361,940 et 2*b*—$4,728,748 du Secrétariat d'État; 40*b*—$250,000 du Conseil de la radio et de la télévision canadienne (adopté à la majorité des voix); 1*b*—$1.00 du Solliciteur général; 7*b*—$1.00, 8*b*—$1.00, 15*b*—$1.00 et 16*b*—$1.00 des Approvisionnements et services; 3*b*—$1.00, 15*b*—$12,504,000, 20*b*—$1,000,000 et 40*b*—$1.00 des Transports; 57*b*—$1.00, 60*b*—$1.00 et 65*b*—$1.00 de la Commission canadienne des transports; 75*b*—$1.00 et 77*b*—$1.00 du Conseil des ports nationaux; 30*b*—$1.00 et 35*b*—$1.00 des Affaires des anciens combattants.

A midi, le Comité lève la séance jusqu'à 3 h. 30 de l'après-midi.

AFTERNOON SITTING
(10)

The Committee resumed sitting at 3.35 p.m. The Chairman, Mr. Fernand Leblanc, presided.

Members present: Messrs. Alkenbrack, Crossman, Gillespie, Goode, Gundlock, Lambert (*Edmonton West*), Leblanc (*Laurier*), Marchand (*Kamloops-Cariboo*), McCutcheon, Ouellet, Paproski, Peddle, Robinson, Roy (*Timmins*), Thomson (*Battleford-Kindersley*)—(15).

Present: Mr. John Skoberg, M.P.

Witnesses: Honourable Jean Chrétien, Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development; Honourable C. M. Drury, President of the Treasury Board; Honourable Paul T. Hellyer, Minister of Transport; Mr. Sylvain Cloutier, Assistant Secretary, Treasury Board.

The Chairman introduced the Honourable Jean Chrétien, Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development who explained the votes relating to his Department.

The Honourable Mr. Chrétien retired.

The Honourable C. M. Drury, President of Treasury Board answered questions in regard to ($1) votes in the Supplementary Estimates (B).

The Honourable Mr. Drury retired and the Honourable Paul Hellyer, Minister of Transport was called and answered questions on items under Loans and Investments.

The following votes were carried:

Indian Affairs and Northern Development Votes 5b—$3,185,000, 20b—$1.00, 30b—$900,000, 35b—$1.00 and 36b—$43,279; Department of Labour vote 12b—$1.00; Loans, Investments and Advances, votes L3b—$22,000,000; L22b—$100,000, L27b—$1.00 was carried on Division, L32b—$6,000,000; L35b—$250,000; L65b—$997,000; L82b—$250,000; L83b—$600,000; L103b—$10,000; L104b—$7,000,000.

SÉANCE DE L'APRÈS-MIDI
(10)

Le Comité se réunit de nouveau à 3 h. 35 de l'après-midi, sous la présidence de M. Fernand Leblanc, président.

Présents: MM. Alkenbrack, Crossman, Gillespie, Goode, Gundlock, Lambert (*Edmonton-ouest*), Leblanc (*Laurier*), Marchand (*Kamloops-Cariboo*), McCutcheon, Ouellet, Paproski, Peddle, Robinson, Roy (*Timmins*), Thomson (*Battleford-Kindersley*).—(15).

De même que M. John Skoberg, député.

Témoins: l'honorable Jean Chrétien, ministre des Affaires indiennes et du Nord canadien; l'honorable C. M. Drury, président du Conseil du Trésor; l'honorable Paul T. Hellyer, ministre des Transports; M. Sylvain Cloutier, secrétaire adjoint au Conseil du Trésor.

Le président présente l'honorable Jean Chrétien, ministre des Affaires indiennes et du Nord canadien qui a fournit des explications sur les crédits touchant son ministère.

L'honorable M. Chrétien se retire.

L'honorable C. M. Drury, président du Conseil du trésor, répond aux questions relatives aux crédits de $1.00 du Budget supplémentaire (B).

L'honorable M. Drury se retire et l'honorable Paul Hellyer, ministre des Transports, répond aux questions relatives aux postes des Prêts et Placements.

On adopte les crédits suivants:

Affaires indiennes et Nord canadien, crédits 5*b*—$3,185,000, 20*b*—$1.00, 30*b*—$900,000, 35*b*—$1.00 et 36*b*—$43,279; ministère du Travail, crédit 12*b*—$1.00; Prêts, placements et avances, crédits L3*b*—$22,000,000, L22*b*—$100,000, L27*b*—$1.00 (adopté à la majorité des voix), L32*b*—$6,000,000, L35*b*—$250,000, L65*b*—$997,000, L82*b*—$250,000, L83*b*—$600,000, L103*b*—$10,000, L104*b*—$7,000,000.

The following votes were carried on Division:

L107b—$16,000,000; L110b—$17,125,000; L116b—$1.00; L117b—$1.00; L118b—$1.00 and L119b—$1.00.

This completed the Supplementary Estimates (B) for the fiscal year ending March 31, 1969.

It was moved by Mr. Lambert and seconded by Mr. Thomson,

Resolved,—that the Committee express its concern at the extensive use of $1.00 items for the purpose of statutory amendments particularly in final supplementary estimates which are under time limit as to examination in the standing committee and for debate in the House. Appropriate legislative amendments should be made in all but the most exceptional and urgent cases.

Moved by Mr. Lambert,

Agreed on division,—that the Committee also noted with concern an even greater use of $1.00 items for the transfer of monies from one account to another. In a number of cases an underexpended item served as a prolific source of funds for unrelated purposes in the same ministry.

At 5.10 p.m. the Committee adjourned to the call of the Chair.

On adopte les crédits suivants à la majorité des voix:

L107*b*—$16,000,000, L110*b*—$17,125,000, L116*b*—$1.00, L117*b*—$1.00, L118*b*—$1.00 et L119*b*—$1.00.

Ceci complète l'étude du Budget supplémentaire (B) de l'année financière se terminant le 31 mars 1969.

Sur une motion de M. Lambert, le Comité décide d'exprimer son inquiétude quant à l'usage répandu des postes de $1.00 aux fins d'amendements statutaires, particulièrement dans le Budget supplémentaire final que le Comité permanent et la Chambre doivent étudier dans certains délais. Il faudrait procéder à des amendements législatifs selon la procédure, sauf dans les cas les plus exceptionnels et pressants.

Sur une motion de M. Lambert, et à la majorité des voix, il est convenu que le Comité prenne note, avec inquiétude, de l'usage encore plus répandu de postes de $1.00 pour transférer de l'argent d'un compte à un autre. Dans plusieurs cas, un poste, dont les fonds n'avaient pas été complètement écoulés, a constitué une source prolifique de fonds pour d'autres services dans un tout autre secteur du même ministère.

Le Comité lève la séance à 5 h. 10 de l'après-midi, à la demande du président.

Le secrétaire du Comité,
D. E. Lévesque,
Clerk of the Committee.

[*Texte*]

EVIDENCE

(*Recorded by Electronic Apparatus*)

Thursday, February 27, 1969

• 0942

The Chairman: I think we should now commence because the members who are here are very representative of our Committee.

We were on page 16 of Supplementary Estimates (B) for 1968-69, Item 20b—Harbours and Rivers Engineering Services.

Harbours and Rivers Engineering Services

Vote 20b—Operation and Maintenance—To authorize the transfer of $399,999 from Public Works Vote 30, Appropriation Act No. 4, 1968 for the purposes of this Vote—

Remedial works where damages are caused by, or endanger, navigation of federal government structures

Repairs and Upkeep—$325,000

Contributions—$75,000

Total—$400,000

Less: Funds available in Public Works Vote 30 of the Revised Estimates for 1968-69—$399,999

Total—$1

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): Mr. Chairman, may I raise a point of order?

The Chairman: Yes.

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): Yesterday, we deferred consideration of certain estimates of the Department of Indian Affairs on the basis that this was policy and it was quite wrong that Mr. Cloutier should even be asked these questions. What is the news with regard to the availability of the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development?

The Chairman: I have been trying to get in touch with Mr. Chrétien, who is the Minister responsible, but apparently the people who got in touch with him had the answer that he will not be available before Monday. I did not have a chance to reach him personally to make sure this was his final answer.

[*Interprétation*]

TÉMOIGNAGES

(*Enregistrement électronique*)

Le jeudi 27 février 1969.

Le président: Je crois que nous devrions commencer maintenant, car nous avons ici une bonne représentation des membres du Comité.

Nous en étions à la page 16 du Budget supplémentaire (B) de l'année 1968-1969, au crédit 20b—Services du génie (ports et rivières).

Services du génie (ports et rivières)

Crédit 20b—Exploitation et entretien—Autorisation du transfert de $399,999 du crédit 30 (Travaux publics), Loi n° 4 de 1968 portant affectation de crédits, aux fins du présent crédit—

Ouvrages de protection aux endroits ou les dommages sont causés par la navigation ou par des ouvrages de l'état ou lorsqu'il y a risque pour ces derniers

Réparation et entretien—$325,000

Contributions—$75,000

Total—$400,000

Moins: Sommes disponibles dans le crédit 30 (Travaux publics) du Budget revisé des dépenses de 1968-1969—$399,999

Total—$1

M. Lambert (Edmonton-Ouest): Monsieur le président, puis-je invoquer le Règlement?

Le président: Oui.

M. Lambert (Edmonton-Ouest): Hier, nous avons remis à plus tard l'examen de certaines prévisions budgétaires du ministère des Affaires indiennes, sous prétexte qu'il s'agissait de politique et qu'il était inadmissible que l'on posât de telles questions à M. Cloutier. Qu'y a-t-il de neuf en ce qui concerne la comparution du ministre des Affaires indiennes et du Nord canadien?

Le président: J'ai cherché à me mettre personnellement en rapport avec M. Chrétien mais il semble que les personnes qui ont pris contact avec lui ont dit que la réponse était qu'il ne serait pas à notre disposition avant lundi. Mais, personnellement, je n'ai pas eu la possibilité de lui parler pour obtenir une réponse directe.

[*Text*]

M. Lambert (Edmonton-Ouest): Monsieur le président, je trouve extraordinaire qu'un ministre nous demande, en de pareilles circonstances, d'approuver ces crédits supplémentaires d'une valeur assez considérable, en nous laissant questionner seulement un haut fonctionnaire du Conseil du Trésor, qui n'a aucune responsabilité politique. Ensuite, puisque la guillotine doit tomber aujourd'hui, je trouve extraordinaire qu'un ministre puisse se soustraire des questions simplement en nous disant, avec une certaine impudence, qu'il ne se présentera pas devant le Comité.

Maintenant, ce ministère-ci a un ministre sans portefeuille qui est aussi responsable de la politique. Est-ce qu'on lui a imposé un baîllon pour l'empêcher de venir? Pourquoi M. Andras ne peut-il pas venir ici?

Cela va également pour M. Hellyer. Il a quatre amendements à la *Loi sur l'habitation*; ce sont des amendements statutaires, et non pas simplement des crédits supplémentaires. Ce n'est pas à M. Cloutier de justifier ces crédits supplémentaires. Est-ce que M. Hellyer aurait aussi l'impudence de nous dire qu'il n'est pas disponible pour témoigner devant le Comité avant ce soir. Car, la guillotine tombe ce soir en ce qui concerne l'étude de ces crédits. Je proteste absolument contre cette procédure et, de la part de notre délégation, monsieur le président, j'insiste pour que ces ministres se présentent pour témoigner.

Le président: Monsieur Lambert, je n'ai pas appelé personnellement M. Jean Chrétien; je l'ai fait appeler par monsieur Lévesque, n'est-ce pas?

M. Lévesque: Oui.

Le président: Monsieur Lévesque et l'assistant-whip également ont communiqué avec lui; je ne sais pas quelle était la teneur de la conversation. On m'a rapporté, par la suite, que M. Chrétien, pour une raison our pour une autre, ne pourrait pas être disponible avant lundi. Je sais que l'étude des prévisions budgétaires au stage du comité sera terminée demain. Lundi, il sera trop tard pour que le ministre nous donne des explications du sujet des crédits, puisque le tout sera terminé à la Chambre des communes.

En ce qui concerne M. Hellyer, je n'ai pas communiqué avec lui; personne n'a communiqué avec lui. Mais si vous le voulez, on peut voir ce qu'on peut faire.

M. Lambert (Edmonton-Ouest): Est-ce que M. Drury sera de retour aujourd'hui?

Le président: Êtes-vous au courant si M. Drury sera de retour aujourd'hui, monsieur Cloutier? D'ailleurs, nous avons terminé avec le Conseil du Trésor.

[*Interpretation*]

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton-West): Mr. Chairman, I think it is extraordinary that a Minister should ask us, under such circumstances, to pass supplementary estimates for fairly considerable amounts and let us only question one single senior official of the Treasury Board who has no political responsibility. Then, as we have been told that the guillotine will be applied today, I think it is extraordinary that a Minister should avoid our questions simply by telling us, with a certain degree of impudence, that he will not appear before the Committee.

Now, this Department has a Minister without portfolio who is also responsible for the policy. Has he been prevented from appearing before us? Why can Mr. Andras not appear before us?

This also applies to Mr. Hellyer. There are four amendments to the Housing Act. These are statutory amendments, not simply supplementary estimates. It is not up to Mr. Cloutier to justify those supplementary estimates. Would Mr. Hellyer also have the impudence to tell us that he is not available to answer our questions before the Committee prior to this evening? Because tonight the guillotine will be applied regarding the study of these estimates. I protest against this way of proceeding and, on behalf of our delegation, Mr. Chairman, I insist that these Ministers be present to be questioned.

The Chairman: Mr. Lambert, I did not personally contact Mr. Jean Chrétien. I had Mr. Lévesque phone him, isn't that so?

Mr. Lévesque: Yes.

The Chairman: Mr. Lévesque and the deputy whip also got in touch with him. I do not exactly know how the conversation went. I was told, afterwards, that Mr. Chrétien, for one reason or another, could not be available before Monday. I know that the study of the estimates in committee will be finished tomorrow. Monday it will be too late for the Minister to explain the votes to the Committee since those estimates will be passed in the House of Commons.

As for Mr. Hellyer, I did not get in touch with him; nobody got in touch with him. But if you wish, we can see what can be done.

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): Will Mr. Drury be back today?

The Chairman: Do you know, Mr. Cloutier, if Mr. Drury will be back today? By the way, we are through with the Treasury Board.

[*Texte*]

M. Lambert (Edmonton-Ouest): Mais il est le ministre responsable, n'est-ce pas? C'est lui qui présente ces crédits supplémentaires à la Chambre. C'est lui qui parraine ces crédits; il doit donc se justifier. Pourquoi avons-nous ces demandes pour des amendements statutaires sous forme de crédits de $1?

Le président: Dans la déclaration de M. Drury à l'ouverture des débats, n'y a-t-il pas eu une explication à cet effet, monsieur Lambert?

M. Lambert (Edmonton-Ouest): J'en doute fort. Il a donné son point de vue, mais on ne lui a pas posé de questions.

Le président: Il était également à votre disposition pour les questions.

M. Lambert (Edmonton-Ouest): Oui, mais, monsieur le président, on nous disait que le ministre devait se sauver à 10 h. 30; il avait un autre rendez-vous. On nous a alors demandé de limiter nos questions.

Franchement, ce n'est pas la procédure habituelle. On demande la coopération des députés, mais il faut que les ministres coopèrent aussi. Ce ne sont pas des dieux.

Le président: On va voir ce qu'on peut faire dans le courant de l'avant-midi au sujet de la présence des ministres dont j'ai parlé, soit l'hon. Jean Chrétien, l'hon. Paul Hellyer et l'hon. Charles Drury. Nous vous donnerons une réponse cet après-midi, car, ce matin, on ne pourra pas évidemment les atteindre, puisque le Cabinet siège. Dès que le Cabinet aura fini de siéger ce matin, nous pourrons essayer de communiquer avec les ministres concernés.

Nous passons au crédit 20b, Services du génie (ports et rivières). Monsieur Cloutier?

M. S. Cloutier (secrétaire adjoint du Conseil du Trésor (Programme)): Ce crédit comprend des sommes supplémentaires au crédit original, requises pour une cinquantaine de travaux de réparation à des ouvrages de protection de long des voies navigables.

• 0950

Items 20b and 25b agreed to.

Harbours and Rivers Engineering Services (Continued)

Vote 30b—Construction, acquisition, major repairs and improvements of, and plans and sites for harbour and river works (including expenditures on works on other than federal property); provided

[*Interprétation*]

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): But he is the responsible Minister, is he not? It is he who tables those supplementary estimates in the House of Commons. It is he who pilots those estimates, therefore he must justify himself. Why do we have those requests for statutory amendments in the form of $1 votes?

The Chairman: Did Mr. Drury in his statement at the outset of the discussions not give an explanation to that effect, Mr. Lambert?

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): I doubt it very much. He gave his viewpoint, but he was not questionned.

The Chairman: He was also at our disposal to answer questions.

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): Yes, Mr. Chairman, but we were told that the Minister had to leave at 10:30 a.m. because he had another appointment. We were then asked to limit our questions.

Frankly, this is not the usual procedure. Members of Parliament are asked to cooperate, but the Ministers should cooperate also. They are not gods.

The Chairman: We will see what we can do in the course of the morning about the presence of those Ministers to whom I referred, namely the Hon. Jean Chrétien, the Hon. Paul Hellyer and the Hon. Charles Drury. We shall give you an answer this afternoon because this morning we shall obviously not be able to contact them, since the Cabinet is sitting. As soon as that Cabinet sitting is over, we shall be able to try and get in touch with the Ministers concerned.

We shall now deal with vote No. 20b, Harbours and Rivers Engineering Services. Mr. Cloutier?

Mr. S. Cloutier (Assistant Secretary, Program Branch, Treasury Board): This vote includes additional amounts to the original vote which are necessary for some fifty repair projects on protective constructions along water-ways.

Les crédits 20b et 25b sont adoptés.

Crédit 30b—Construction, acquisition, réparations et améliorations importantes, préparation de plans et achat de terrains, relativement aux ouvrages des ports et rivières (y compris les dépenses à l'égard d'ouvrages situés ailleurs que sur une propriété fédérale), aucun contrat de

[*Text*]

that no contract may be entered into for new construction with an estimated total cost of $50,000 or more unless the project is individually listed in the Details of the Estimates—

Nova Scotia

Pinkney's Point—Wharf repairs—$ 75,000

Quebec

Sillery—Harbour improvements—$ 72,400

Total—$147,400

Less: Funds available in the Revised Estimates, 1968-69—$ 147,399

Total— $1

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): Mr. Cloutier, this again, I suppose, is just a mere transfer of funds within the various projects, shortfall expenditures making funds available, and you are taking on some other jobs.

Mr. Cloutier: Within the same vote.

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): That is right, yes.

Mr. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): I have a further question. We have been through this already. I am not saying that you should not repair Pinkney's Point Wharf or undertake harbour improvement at Sillery but again you are in effect saying, we have this money left so let us do this with this money.

Mr. Cloutier: Actually, the comment that I would make is slightly different. In the case of Pinkney's Point, this is a wharf that was severely damaged by fire in 1967 and the repairs had to be undertaken immediately. In terms of the Sillery harbour improvements, this is an improvement to the marina at Sillery which has been undertaken in the current year because of the expected slippage on other projects.

Item 30b agreed to.

REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT

A—General

Vote 10b—Grants, subventions and payments as detailed in the Estimates—To authorize the transfer of $140,000 from Regional Development Vote 5, Appropriation Act No. 4, 1968 for the purposes of this Vote and to provide a further amount of—

Payments in respect of projects and programs under the agricultural and rural development act, and payments to prov-

[*Interpretation*]

construction dont le coût total est estimé à $50,000 ou plus ne pouvant être passé à moins que l'entreprise n'apparaisse séparément au détail des affectations—$1

Nouvelle-Écosse

Pinkney's Point—Réparation de quai—$75,000

Québec

Sillery—Améliorations portuaires—$72,400

Total $147,000

Moins: Sommes disponibles dans le Budget revisé des dépenses de 1968-1969—$147,399

Total—$1

M. Lambert (Edmonton-Ouest): Ceci est, je suppose, simplement un transfert de fonds entre les différents projets. Certains projets comportent des fonds qui sont disponibles et qu'on transfert à d'autres projets.

M. Cloutier: A l'intérieur du même crédit.

M. Lambert (Edmonton-Ouest): C'est ça.

M. Thomson: Je ne dis pas que vous ne devriez pas réparer le quai de Pinkney's Point ou faire des améliorations au port de Sillery, mais en fait, vous dites: Nous avons de l'argent, donc employons-le à ces travaux.

M. Cloutier: En fait, ce que je veux dire est un peu différent. Pour Pinkney's Point, c'est un quai qui a été sévèrement endommagé par l'incendie en 1967 et des réparations ont dû être faites immédiatement.

Pour ce qui est des améliorations portuaires de Sillery, c'est une amélioration de l'installation des bateaux de plaisance et ces travaux ont été entrepris cette année à cause des glissements éventuels qui menaçaient le port.

Le crédit 30b est adopté.

EXPANSION ÉCONOMIQUE RÉGIONALE

A—Généralités

Crédit 10b—Subventions, contributions et paiements selon le détail des affectations—Autorisation du transfert de $140,000 du crédit 5 (Expansion économique régionale), Loi nº 4 de 1968 portant affectation de crédits, aux fins du présent crédit et affectation d'un montant supplémentaire de—$5,585,000

Paiements à l'égard d'entreprises et de programmes relevant de la Loi sur l'amé-

[*Texte*]

inces and payments in respect of projects and programs pursuant to agreements entered into under that act.

Contributions to the provinces—$6,000,000

Other payments—$700,000

Total—$6,700,000

Payments in accordance with agreements approved by the governor in council between the minister of Manpower and Immigration and any province, agency or person to make payments of up to 100 per cent of the cost of carrying on research in connection with the utilization of manpower resources in Canada including the development of experimental training methods and techniques and the payment of training allowances—to extend the purposes to include payments accordance with agreements approved by the governor in council between the minister of Forestry and Rural Development and any province, agency or person for such purposes—$1

Total—$6,700,001

Less: Funds available in Regional Development Vote 5 ($140,000) and within this Vote ($975,001) of the Revised Estimates, 1968-69—$1,115,001

Total—$5,585,000

M. Lambert (Edmonton-Ouest): Avez-vous des explications?

M. Cloutier: Ce sont des contributions aux provinces à l'égard du programme ARDA, monsieur Lambert. Les prévisions budgétaires de 1968-1969 prévoyait des paiements au montant de $18 millions. Des réclamations ont été reçues des provinces au cours de l'année pour des montants plus élevés. Ainsi, la somme de $6 millions est requise pour honorer ces réclamations qui tombent sous les ententes ARDA entre le fédéral et les provinces.

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): Yes, and in what particular provinces, because after all we have here, Mr. Cloutier, a $6.7 million item. This is not all falling into the lap of one province is it?

Mr. Cloutier: I do not believe so, sir. I think it is spread over the country. I do not think I have the precise provincial breakdown, though.

Mr. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Do you have more than one plan for training

[*Interprétation*]

nagement agricole et rural et paiements aux provinces et paiements à l'égard d'entreprise et de programmes au titre des accords passés sous l'empire de cette loi

Contributions aux provinces—$6,000,000

Autres paiements—$700,000

Total—$6,700,000

Versements en conformité de conventions conclues avec l'approbation du Gouverneur en Conseil entre le ministre de la Main-d'œuvre et de l'Immigration et quelque province, organisme ou personne pour acquitter jusqu'à concurrence de 100 p. 100 le coût des recherches concernant l'utilisation des ressources en main-d'œuvre au Canada, y compris la mise au point de méthodes et de techniques expérimentales de formation et le paiement d'allocations de formation—extension de la portée des versements, qui comprendront des paiements en conformité de conventions conclues à ces fins avec l'approbation du Gouverneur en Conseil entre le ministre des Forêts et du Développement Rural et quelque province, organisme ou personne—$1

Total—$6,700,001

Moins—Sommes disponibles dans le crédit 5 (Expansion économique régionale) ($140,000) et dans le même crédit ($975,001) du Budget revisé des dépenses de 1968-1969—$1,115,001

Total—$5,585,000

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): Do you have any explanations?

Mr. Cloutier: Those are contributions made to the provinces with respect to the ARDA program, Mr. Lambert. The estimates for 1968-69 provided for payments to the amount of $18 million. Claims were received from the provinces during the year for higher amounts. Hence, the sum of $6 million is necessary to meet those claims which come under the ARDA agreements between the provinces and the federal government.

M. Lambert (Edmonton-Ouest): Oui, et dans quelles provinces en particulier, car, après tout nous avons ici un crédit de 6.7 millions de dollars et ceci n'est pas destiné à une seule province.

M. Cloutier: Je ne pense pas, il me semble que ce montant est réparti à travers le pays. Je n'ai pas malheureusement la répartition exacte.

M. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Vous avez plus d'un plan pour ces compensations

[*Text*]

allowances? I see under this program, too, that there is an item listed for training people.

Mr. Cloutier: This is in connection with the New Start programs. These are programs undertaken in localities to upgrade the earning power of the manpower available in these areas. They are mostly less developed areas of particular provinces and this program was administered under the Minister of Manpower and Immigration. With the government reorganization which took place in the summer, this particular program was transferred to the Department of Regional Development.

Mr. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Would this be forestry training or something like that?

Mr. Cloutier: It envisages a number of various endeavours which could include forestry as well as a number of other enterprises.

The Chairman: Mr. McCutcheon.

Mr. McCutcheon: On page 17 under this paragraph that we are discussing, where it shows a total of $6.7 million there is one little clause:

...to extend the purposes...

Another dollar item to extend legislation?

• 0955

Mr. Cloutier: You are referring to the $1 item there, are you?

Mr. McCutcheon: Yes.

Mr. Cloutier: As I explained, the responsibility for the NewStart program was under the Minister of Manpower and Immigration and the purpose of this $1 item is to provide the necessary authority for the Minister of Forestry and Rural Development to undertake these agreements.

Mr. McCutcheon: It is not a transfer of funds though; it is an extension of...

Mr. Cloutier: No, this is a minor...

Mr. McCutcheon: ...extension.

Mr. Cloutier: That is right.

Mr. McCutcheon: Thank you.

The Chairman: Shall Item 10b carry?

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): On division on these statutory amendments that are made. I am not approving that here.

Item 10b agreed to on division.

[*Interpretation*]

d'apprentissage. Je vois qu'en vertu de ces programmes, vous avez un montant destiné aux professeurs.

M. Cloutier: C'est un programme nouveau, connexe au programme de recyclage entrepris dans certaines localités pour améliorer les possibilités de gain de la main-d'œuvre disponible dans ces régions. Ce sont surtout les régions moins développées de certaines provinces, et ce programme a été administré par le ministère de la Main-d'œuvre et de l'Immigration. Avec la réorganisation des ministères qui a eu lieu cet été, ce programme a été transféré au ministère de l'Expansion économique régionale.

M. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Ceci concerne-t-il l'apprentissage des métiers de la forêt?

M. Cloutier: Cela porte sur plusieurs projets d'aménagement de la main-d'œuvre qui s'étendra sur plusieurs entreprises, y compris l'industrie forestière.

Le président: M. McCutcheon.

M. McCutcheon: A la page 17, sous le paragraphe que nous discutons, où on voit le montant de $6,700,000. On y trouve une petite clause:

...extension de la portée...

Un autre crédit de $1 pour une extension statutaire?

M. Cloutier: Vous voulez parler du nouveau crédit de $1 pour reconduire la loi?

M. McCutcheon: Oui.

M. Cloutier: Comme je l'ai dit, la responsabilité de ce nouveau programme de mise en chantier relève de M. Marchand et ce crédit de $1 donnera au ministre des Forêts et du Développement rural, la possibilité de le mettre en vigueur.

M. McCutcheon: Ce n'est pas un transfert de fonds?

M. Cloutier: Non, c'est une reconduction de faible importance.

M. McCutcheon: Extension?

M. Cloutier: Oui.

M. McCutcheon: Merci.

Le président: Le crédit 10b est-il adopté?

M. Lambert (Edmonton-Ouest): Sur division. Je n'approuve pas ces modifications statutaires.

Le crédit 10b est adopté sur division.

[*Texte*]

SECRETARY OF STATE

A—Department

Vote 1b—Departmental Administration, including grants as detailed in the Estimates—To extend the purposes of Secretary of State Vote 1 of the Revised Estimates 1968-69 to authorize the payment in the fiscal years 1968-69 and 1969-70 of the expenses of the Task Force on Educational Broadcasting and, to authorize the transfer of $12,000 from Secretary of State Vote 5, and $115,000 from Secretary of State Vote 10, Appropriation Act No. 4, 1968 for the purposes of this Vote and to provide a further amount of—

Grants to the Canadian Folk Arts Council—$33,500

Grants to the Province of Ontario Council for the Arts—$5,000

Grant to the Canadian Museums Association—$840

Grant to the Associated Councils of the Arts—$15,000

Grant to the Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada—$59,600

Task Force on Educational Broadcasting—$185,000

Expenses necessary for and incidental to closing out the affairs of the Centennial Commission—$190,000

Total—$488,940

Less: Funds available in Secretary of State Votes 5 and 10 of the Revised Estimates, 1968-69—$127,000

Total—$361,940

The Chairman: Those are the grants for which we are asking supplementary estimates; Canadian Folk Arts Council, and so on.

Mr. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Mr. Chairman, I have a question. Does this gentleman look after broadcasting? Am I correct?

Mr. Cloutier: The Secretary of State is the minister who answers to Parliament for the CBC, yes.

Mr. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Just the CBC?

Mr. Cloutier: Oh, no. The Secretary of State is responsible to Parliament for quite a number of agencies. As a matter of fact, I think there might be upwards of 10 or 12.

[*Interprétation*]

SECRÉTARIAT D'ÉTAT

A—Ministère

Crédit 1b—Administration centrale, y compris les subventions selon le détail des affectations—Extension des objets du crédit 1er du secrétariat d'État, prévu dans le Budget revisé des dépenses de 1968-1969, en vue d'autoriser le paiement, pendant les années financières 1968-1969 et 1969-1970, des dépenses du Groupe d'étude sur la télévision éducative et d'autoriser le transfert de $12,000 du crédit 5 (secrétariat d'État) et de $115,000 du crédit 10 (secrétariat d'État), Loi nº 4 de 1968 portant affectation de crédits, aux fins du présent crédit et d'affecter un montant supplémentaire de—$361,940.

Subventions au Conseil canadien des arts populaires—$33,500

Subvention au Conseil des arts de la province d'Ontario—$5,000

Subvention à l'Association des musées canadiens—$840

Subvention aux Conseils associés des arts—$15,000

Subvention à l'Association des universités et collèges du Canada—$59,600

Groupe d'étude sur la télévision éducative —$185,000

Dépenses nécessaires et afférentes à la terminaison des affaires de la Commission du Centenaire—$190,000

Total—$488,940

Moins: Sommes disponibles dans les crédits 5 et 10 (secrétariat d'État) du Budget revisé des dépenses de 1968-1969—$127,000

Total—$361,940

Le président: Il s'agit là de subventions pour lesquelles nous demandons des budgets supplémentaires. Conseil canadien des arts populaires etc . . .

M. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Je voudrais poser une question. Est-ce que ce monsieur s'occupe de la télévision?

M. Cloutier: Le Secrétaire d'État est le ministre responsable vis-à-vis du Parlement de la Société Radio-Canada.

M. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Seulement Radio-Canada?

M. Cloutier: Non, le Secrétaire d'État rend compte au Parlement de plusieurs autres organismes dix ou douze environ.

[*Text*]

The Chairman: Yes, close to 12.

Mr. Cloutier: The list is this one, sir. There is the Department itself, the Canada Council, the CBC, the Canadian Film Development Corporation, the Canadian Radio-Television Commission, Office of the Chief Electoral Officer, the Company of Young Canadians, the National Arts Centre, the National Film Board, the National Library, the National Museums of Canada, the Public Archives, the Public Service Commission and the Representation Commissioner.

Mr. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Obviously he is busier than I thought. I had a complaint about a satellite station but since he is not here, I will pass. Obviously I would not expect you to answer.

Mr. Paproski: Would you be able to break down the amount for the Canadian Folk Arts Council? Do you have anything on that? Who receives the grants?

Mr. Cloutier: I will have to search my memory for this. I do not have any notes on this particular grant but I believe—and I will stand to be corrected—that this is a grant to assist the Canadian Folk Arts Council in maintaining an office either in Quebec or Toronto or both, but I am really speaking from memory here, sir.

Mr. Paproski: I have just one more question. Concerning the Task Force on Educational Broadcasting, will this $185,000 be the final figure for their study?

Mr. Cloutier: That is right, sir.

Mr. Paproski: That was completed?

Mr. Cloutier: This is meant to complete the whole Task Force.

Mr. Paproski: Has it completed its study?

Mr. Cloutier: No; the study is expected to cover a period of six months, ending June 30.

Mr. Paproski: Thank you.

Mr. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): What is the difference between a task force and a royal commission?

The Chairman: That is a hard question for our witness, you know.

Mr. Cloutier: Let me put it this way: I would think that a task force consists of a group of individuals who are brought together to prepare a report on a given project, but they are not appointed under the Inquiries

[*Interpretation*]

Le président: Oui, près de douze.

M. Cloutier: Voici la liste: le ministère, le Conseil des arts, la Société Radio-Canada, la Société canadienne de développement de l'industrie cinématographique du Canada, le Conseil de la radio-télévision canadienne, la Compagnie des jeunes Canadiens, la Corporation du Centre national des arts, la Galerie nationale, les Musées nationaux du Canada, les Archives publiques, la Commission de la fonction publique, le Commissaire à la représentation.

M. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): J'ai une plainte à adresser au sujet des satellites mais je ne veux pas vous en parler maintenant.

M. Paproski: Est-ce que vous pourriez nous donner la répartition de la subvention au Conseil canadien des arts populaires? Qui reçoit les subventions?

M. Cloutier: Je vais essayer de m'en souvenir. Je n'ai pas de note à ce sujet mais je crois peut-être à tort, qu'il s'agit d'une subvention destinée à aider le Conseil canadien des arts populaires, pour le maintien des bureaux du Québec ou de Toronto, je ne me rappelle pas au juste.

M. Paproski: Une autre question. Au sujet de l'équipe spéciale chargée de la télévision éducative; ces $185,000 sont-ils le dernier montant consacré à l'étude?

M. Cloutier: Oui.

M. Paproski: Est-elle terminée?

M. Cloutier: Cela complète l'équipe spéciale.

M. Paproski: Et est-ce qu'elle a terminé ses études?

M. Cloutier: Non, l'étude est prévue sur une période de six mois devant se terminer le 30 juin.

M. Paproski: Merci.

M. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Quelle est la différence entre une équipe spéciale et une Commission royale d'enquête.

Le président: Notre témoin ne peut guère répondre à cette question.

M. Cloutier: Je pense qu'un groupe d'étude est un groupe composé de certaines personnes qui rédigent un rapport sur un projet donné, mais elles ne sont pas nommées en vertu de la Loi sur les enquêtes, et elles n'ont pas les

[*Texte*]

Act and they do not have the powers of Royal Commissioners. Those who are not part of the Public Service, those members of the Task Force who are brought in from outside are hired on a personal contract basis, whereas those members of the Task Force who are members of the Public Service are simply loaned from their original department for purposes of the Task Force.

• 1000

Mr. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Thank you.

Mr. Peddle: Is that a Royal Commission that works.

The Chairman: You would not expect an answer on that, would you?

Mr. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): I wanted to know.

Mr. Gillespie: I missed part of Mr. Cloutier's remarks on the Task Force on Educational Broadcasting. Is the $185,000 a supplementary amount?

Mr. Cloutier: No, it is the total amount for the Task Force.

Mr. Gillespie: The total, I see.

Item 1b agreed to.

On Item 2b—Construction or Acquisition of Buildings, Works, Land and Equipment—National Arts Centre—To authorize the expenditure in the current and subsequent fiscal years of amounts not exceeding in the aggregate the sum of $4,728,748—$4,728,748

Mr. McCutcheon: We have $4,728,748 for the National Arts Centre.

Mr. Cloutier: Yes.

Mr. McCutcheon: In the 1970 book we have another $2.5 million plus all the previous—where is this thing going to end?

Mr. Cloutier: This is the end, sir.

Mr. McCutcheon: You mean with another $2.5 million next year?

Mr. Clouthier: Let me make a distinction with respect to the $2.5 million next year. The $2.5 million next year is the operating cost of the National Arts Centre, whereas the item before the Committee now is the completion of construction of the Centre.

[*Interprétation*]

pouvoirs des commissaires d'une commission royale. Ceux qui ne sont pas membres de la fonction publique, les membres de l'Équipe spéciale qui viennent de l'extérieur sont engagés en vertu d'un contrat personnel, alors que les membres de l'Équipe spéciale qui sont fonctionnaires sont simplement prêtés par leur ministère, pour les besoins de l'Équipe spéciale.

M. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Merci.

M. Peddle: C'est une commission royale qui travaille?

Le président: Vous ne vous attendez pas qu'on réponde à votre question au moins?

M. Thomson: Je voulais tout simplement m'en assurer.

M. Gillespie: Je n'ai pas tout à fait saisi les remarques de M. Clouthier au sujet de l'Équipe spéciale sur la télévision éducative. $185,000, c'est une somme supplémentaire?

M. Cloutier: Non, c'est la somme totale prévue pour l'Équipe spéciale.

M. Gillespie: Je vois.

Le crédit 1b est adopté.

Crédit 2b—Construction ou acquisition de bâtiments, ouvrages, terrains et matériel—Centre national des Arts—Autorisation de dépenser, au cours de la présente année financière et des années subséquentes, des montants ne dépassant pas la somme de $4,728,748—$4,728,748

M. McCutcheon: Nous avons $4,728,748 pour le Centre national des arts.

M. Cloutier: Oui.

M. McCutcheon: Et dans le budget de 1970, nous avons une autre somme de $2,500,000, sans compter toutes les prévisions antérieures... Quand est-ce que tout cela va se terminer?

M. Cloutier: C'est la fin, Monsieur.

M. McCutcheon: Vous voulez dire avec un autre 2 millions et demi l'année prochaine?

M. Cloutier: Permettez-moi de faire une distinction au sujet de ces $2,500,000. Les $2,500,000 de l'année prochaine couvrent les frais d'exploitation du Centre national des arts, alors que le crédit que nous étudions actuellement porte sur le parachèvement du Centre, de la construction.

[*Text*]

Mr. McCutcheon: Do you mean we are going to operate this thing and it is going to run in the red, by two and one-half million a year?

Mr. Cloutier: The Estimates of 1969-70 provide for

> Payments to the National Arts Centre Corporation to be used only for the following objects: (a) the operation and maintenance of the National Arts Centre and (b) the development of the performing arts in the National Capital Region—$2,500,000

There is some detail on page 358 in the 1969-70 Estimates, where you see that the total expenditures are estimated at $4.3 million and that there are revenues estimated at about $1.8 million, leaving a balance of $2.5 million which is the item provided for in the 1969-70 Estimates.

Mr. McCutcheon: Is this a fair question: what is the difference between Administration and Operating expenses, and Programming?

Mr. Cloutier: Administration and Operation includes the operation of the Centre, the executive direction of the Centre, the staff who run such facilities as the garage, the catering service and so on, the cleaning, the heating, all of the normal operating expenses of an enterprise.

The Resident Companies are, as indicated, the performing part of the National Arts Centre.

The Programming is made up of three items, as shown in the 1969-70 Estimates: The Opening Festival, the Stratford National Theatre, which would be brought to Ottawa for either four or seven weeks—my memory is hazy on this and I forget the number of weeks and there will be other visiting attractions, other troupes brought to the National Arts Centre throughout the year.

• 1005

Mr. McCutcheon: It certainly looks to me as if people in Newfoundland and in British Columbia are not going to have much chance to participate in this culture.

Mr. Robinson: Mr. Chairman, I have a question on a point of clarification. Under Vote 2b it says:

> To authorize the expenditure in the current and subsequent fiscal years of amounts not exceeding in the aggregate the sum of $4,728,748.

Do I understand that it is this amount for this year and also for each additional year?

[*Interpretation*]

M. McCutcheon: Voulez-vous dire que le Centre va fonctionner avec un déficit annuel de 2 millions et demi par an?

M. Cloutier: Le budget de 1969 prévoit des

> Paiements à la Corporation du Centre national des Arts devant servir exclusivement aux fins suivantes: *a*) diriger et maintenir le Centre national des arts, et *b*) développer les arts d'interprétation dans la région de la capitale nationale, $2,500,000

Il y a une certaine ventilation à la page 358 du Budget de 1969-70. On constate que le total des dépenses se chiffre à environ 4.3 millions et les recettes à environ $1,800,000, ce qui laisse un solde de $2,500,000, soit le poste prévu dans le budget de 1969-1970.

M. McCutcheon: Mais quelle est la différence entre l'administration, les dépenses de fonctionnement et les programmes?

M. Cloutier: L'administration et le fonctionnement comprennent l'exploitation et la direction du Centre, le personnel du Centre, du garage, des restaurants, les services de nettoyage, de chauffage, tous les frais d'exploitation habituels d'une entreprise.

Les troupes permanentes représentent, comme on l'indique, le côté spectacle.

Les programmes comportent trois postes: le festival d'ouverture, le Stratford National Theatre que l'on ferait venir à Ottawa pour je ne sais plus combien de semaines, je crois que c'est environ quatre, ou sept semaines, et il y aurait d'autres troupes de l'extérieur qui viendraient au Centre au cours de l'année.

M. McCutcheon: Il me semble que la population de Terre-Neuve et de la Colombie-Britannique ne va pas vraiment participer à cette vie culturelle.

M. Robinson: Monsieur le président, j'aimerais avoir un petit éclaircissement. Au crédit 2b, on dit:

> Autorisation de dépenses, au cours de la présente année financière et des années subséquentes, des montants ne dépassant pas la somme de $4,728,748.

Dois-je comprendre qu'il s'agit de la somme prévue pour la présente année et aussi pour toutes les autres années?

[*Texte*]

Mr. Cloutier: Actually, of this $4.7 million there is an amount approximating 1.5 million which will be cleaning up accounts early in 1969-70. The centre is scheduled to open some time in the middle of May and there will be some capital expenditures incurred in April and early May. There are also the normal holdbacks on contracts that will be paid only on completion of the work. This is the sort of thing that will be paid in the new year.

Mr. Robinson: I understand that, but what concerns me is if, in passing this vote, we are in effect saying that we are giving authorization to spend a like amount of over $4.5 million each year.

Mr. Cloutier: No, it is $4 million in total. Let me put it this way: the total estimated cost of the Centre is $46,425,000 expenditures up to March 31, 1968, about a year ago, were $30,197,000. So that, as of April 1, 1968 the balance of the capital expenditures was $16,-228,000. The main Estimates for 1968-69 provided $11,500,000 and the balance, which is provided for under this supplementary estimate, represents $4,728,748.

Mr. Robinson: Then we are not likely to have this same item appear again?

Mr. Cloutier: No, this is the end of the construction.

The Chairman: Does that answer your question, Mr. Robinson?

Mr. Robinson: Yes, Mr. Chairman.

Item 2b agreed to.

E—Canadian Radio-Television Commission
Vote 40b—Salaries and Other Expenses—$250,000
Information—$5,000
Professional and Special Services—$198,000
Rentals—$47,000
Total—$250,000

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): Could we get a breakdown on this Professional and Special Services, $198,000? The reason I am asking this is that if one looks at the big fly sheet of Estimates, we get a breakdown of professional and special services for the various departments for 1968-69 and then 1969-70, and it strikes me that we are conducting a war on poverty for people who provide professional and special services.

Mr. Cloutier: I believe, Mr. Lambert, that this question was raised in the House and Mr.

[*Interprétation*]

M. Cloutier: A vrai dire, sur ce montant de $4,700,000, il y a une somme d'environ $1,500,-000 qui doit servir à mettre de l'ordre dans les comptes au début de 1969-1970. Le Centre doit ouvrir, je crois, à la mi-mai, et il y aura certaines dépenses en immobilisations en avril et au début de mai. Il y a aussi certains contrats que l'on ne paiera au complet qu'à la fin des travaux. Voilà le genre de choses qu'on va payer au cours de l'année.

M. Robinson: Je comprends, mais ce qui m'intéresse, c'est de savoir si, en approuvant ce crédit, nous allons autoriser la dépense, chaque année, d'un montant de plus de $4,500,000.

M. Cloutier: Non, le total est de 4 millions. Voici: le coût total prévu pour le Centre est de $46,425,000; au 31 mars 1968, soit un an environ, les dépenses ont atteint $30,197,000. Donc, au 1er avril 1968, le solde des dépenses en immobilisations était de $16,228,000. Le budget principal de 1968-1969 prévoyait $11,-500,000, et le solde prévu dans le présent budget supplémentaire représente $4,728,748.

M. Robinson: Donc, ce crédit ne figurera plus dans le budget?

M. Cloutier: Non, il s'agit là de la fin des travaux de construction.

Le président: Est-ce que cela répond à votre question, monsieur Robinson?

M. Robinson: Oui, monsieur le président.

Le crédit 2b est adopté.

E—Conseil de la radio-télévision Canadienne
Crédit 40b—Traitements et autres dépenses—$250,000
Information—$5,000
Services professionnels et spéciaux—$198,000
Location—$47,000
Total—$250,000

M. Lambert (Edmonton-ouest): Est-ce qu'on pourrait nous donner la ventilation de ces services professionnels et spéciaux de $198,000? Je vous le demande parce que, si on consulte le tableau des artices courants de dépenses, nous avons la ventilation du coût des services professionnels et spéciaux des divers ministères pour l'année 1968-1969 et 1969-1970, et il me semble que nous menons une guerre à la pauvreté pour des gens qui assurent des services professionnels et spéciaux.

M. Cloutier: Je crois, monsieur Lambert, que la question a été soulevée à la Chambre,

[*Text*]

Drury explained that the difference is, in large part, due to a different accounting treatment. Are you now talking of the 1969-70 Estimates?

Mr. Lambert: No, I am looking at 1968-69 where this year in the Revised Estimates the total is $300 million, and I suppose it has not been recapitulated for sups, but I suspect as we have gone along we have seen a fair amount of this, that we are in for several more millions; and then, if we take the fly sheet for 1969-70, we are up to $397 million. As I said, it is not creeping; it is going up by leaps and bounds.

Mr. Cloutier: This is what I meant, that the difference is made up in large part by two

• 1010

accounting transactions: one is in the Post Office and it relates to Revenue Post Offices, the expenditures for which are shown in the Estimates for the first time, and this is an offset against column 13, Estimated Savings and Recoverable Items. This is a recoverable item. You will see a like increase under Item 13, sir. My recollection is that with respect the Post Office the amount is in the neighbourhood of $35 million or $40 million.

The other item is a different treatment in the Department of Transport, where the marine Program is providing service to the air services program or vice versa; one incurs the expenditures and it is charged to the other program, so that there is a contra-entry between these two columns, sir.

These two transactions, I believe, account for $60 million or $65 million of the increase—from $329 million to $396 million.

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): Without reflecting on you at all, Mr. Cloutier, I think Mr. Drury was right on Tuesday morning when he said the name of the effort is to conceal.

Mr. McCutcheon: We are under Vote 40b, the CRTC.

The Chairman: Yes.

Mr. McCutcheon: There are Professional and Special Services of $198,000 shown here and on page 450 of the Revised Estimates we have $229,500, which means $427,500 in Special Services compared to the 1967-68 figure of $119,700. Now who is getting it?

Mr. Cloutier: The comparison between the 1967-68 and 1968-69 figure is not completely

[*Interpretation*]

et que M. Drury a expliqué que la différence est due, en grande partie, à un mode différent de comptabilité. Parlez-vous maintenant du budget de 1969-1970?

M. Lambert (Edmonton-ouest): Non, je parle du budget de 1968-1969, où, cette année, dans le budget révisé, le total est de 300 millions, et je présume qu'il n'y a pas eu de récapitulation pour le budget supplémentaire, mais j'ai idée que nous devons nous attendre à ce que ça coûte encore plusieurs millions de dollars; et ensuite, lorsqu'on prend le tableau des articles courants de dépenses de 1969-1970, on arrive à un total de $397,000,000. Comme je l'ai dit, ça n'augmente pas lentement, mais à une vitesse considérable.

M. Cloutier: C'est ce que je voulais dire; la différence provient, en grande partie, de deux transactions comptables: l'une du ministère des Postes, qui a trait aux bureaux de poste à commission dont les dépenses figurent pour la première fois dans le budget et cela est inscrit, comme compensation, à la colonne 13, économies et montants recouvrables. Il s'agit d'un crédit recouvrable. Vous verrez qu'il y a une augmentation semblable au poste 13, Monsieur. Si je me souviens bien, le montant, pour ce qui est des Postes, est de 35 ou 40 millions de dollars environ. L'autre poste porte sur un traitement différent, au ministère des Transports, où les Services de la marine fournissent des services aux Services de l'air et vice versa; l'un comprend les dépenses et elles sont imputées à l'autre programme, de sorte qu'il y a une contre-écriture entre ces deux colonnes, Monsieur.

Ces deux transactions représentent environ 60 ou 65 millions de dollars sur l'augmentation de $329,000,000 à $396,000,000.

M. Lambert (Edmonton-Ouest): Il me semble que M. Drury avait raison mardi matin quand il a dit que, ce qu'on essaie de faire c'est de dissimuler, sauf votre respect monsieur Cloutier.

M. McCutcheon: Au crédit 40 *b*) au Conseil de radio-télévision canadienne.

Le président: Oui.

M. McCutcheon: Nous avons les Services professionnels et spéciaux, ces chiffres sont de $198,000. A la page 450 du budget revisé, nous avons $229,500, ce qui veut dire $427,500 pour les Services spéciaux comparé à $119,-700. Qui reçoit cet argent?

M. Cloutier: La comparaison entre le budget 1967-1968 et 1968-1969, il faut se souvenir

[*Texte*]

valid because we are dealing with the successor of the BBG. In 1967-68 these expenditures were incurred under the BBG, which by legislation was quite a different institution than the CRTC is. To that extent that year to year comparison might not be completely valid.

Mr. McCutcheon: I accept that.

Mr. Cloutier: The expenditures for Professional and Special Services in CRTC are made up largely of a computerization of the information-gathering services of the CRTC. They are responsible for monitoring programming throughout Canada. They are also made up of additional contracts for research on the extension of broadcasting service, cable television activities and the concentration of ownership in different media which are really missions, if you wish, of the CRTC which the BBG did not really have in the legislation under which it operated.

Mr. Robinson: Are you suggesting, Mr. Cloutier, that with computerization you have an additional cost now but that this will reduce as soon as the operation gets set up?

Mr. Cloutier: Exactly, and the CRTC will be better equipped to do its job—it will do its job on the basis of more complete and more accurate information.

The Chairman: Shall Vote 40b carry?

Mr. McCutcheon: I wish that the witness would answer my question. My question was, who got it?

Mr. Cloutier: I am afraid, sir, you would have to go to the Public Accounts for this information. I believe the Public Accounts used to—I do not know whether they still do—list contracts above a certain amount. I

• 1015

have not the detail.

The Chairman: They still do but they changed the basis of it. The amount has gone up.

Mr. Cloutier: I am sure that information could be made available.

Mr. McCutcheon: Well, from looking at those figures, it really looks like an inordinate increase. I will check that out.

The Chairman: Shall Vote 40b carry?

Mr. Alkenbrack: If it carries, as far as I am concerned it will carry on division. I just

[*Interprétation*]

qu'il s'agit du successeur du Bureau des gouverneurs. En 1967-1968, ces dépenses ont été encourues sous le Bureau des gouverneurs, qui aux termes de la loi était entièrement différent du CRTC. Dans ce contexte, la comparaison d'année en année n'est pas complètement valable.

M. McCutcheon: Ça va.

M. Cloutier: Les dépenses pour les services professionnels et spéciaux au Conseil de la radio-télévision canadienne comportent en grande partie l'ordination des services de renseignements du Conseil. Ils sont responsables des programmes d'écoute à travers le Canada. Ils comportent aussi les contrats pour des recherches en matière d'expansion de la radiodiffusion, de télévision par câble et de concentration de la propriété dans les différents moyens de communication, qui sont réellement des missions, si vous voulez, du CRTC que le Bureau des gouverneurs de la radiodiffusion n'avait pas aux termes de la Loi.

M. Robinson: Suggérez-vous, monsieur Cloutier, qu'avec l'emploi d'ordinateur, il y a des frais supplémentaires mais est-ce que ces frais vont baisser lorsque tout sera installé?

M. Cloutier: Oui, et l'installation du CRTC sera de beaucoup meilleure. Le groupe fera un travail amélioré.

Le président: Le crédit 40 b) est-il adopté?

M. McCutcheon: J'ai demandé qui a reçu cet argent?

M. Cloutier: Qui? Je crois qu'il vous faudra demander ce renseignement aux Comptes publics. Il y avait, je crois, une liste des contrats dépassant un certain montant. Je n'ai pas de détail maintenant.

Le président: Ils ont toujours cette liste mais ils ont changé la base. Les montants, ont augmenté.

M. Cloutier: Je suis sûr que ces renseignements pourraient être disponibles.

M. McCutcheon: Bien, il me semble que c'est une augmentation énorme. Je vais donc vérifier la chose.

Le président: Le crédit 40 b) est-il adopté?

M. Alkenbrack: Eh bien, ce sera sur division, parce que je vais demander à M. Clou-

[*Text*]

wanted to make an inquiry of Mr. Cloutier. Do you know anything about the program of the Canadian Radio Television for the furtherance of cable television in Eastern Ontario? I suppose my question would not be in order here, but I have for the past two years been trying to get them to grant franchises for cable television in towns in my area, particularly the two of Napanee, and I get nothing but a runaround—nothing but promises every time. That is why I say that if this passes it will pass, as far as I am concerned, on division—because, whatever function they perform, they are very ineffectual at the present time.

The Chairman: Then you have no specific question on that. Mr. Thomson?

Mr. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Is this the Commission that is responsible for allocating TV licences and so on?

Mr. Cloutier: Yes, that is correct.

Mr. Alkenbrack: They are at the present time. Jurisdiction, Mr. Chairman, was formerly with the Department of Transport but now it is transferred, I believe, to the CRTC.

Mr. Cloutier: They are responsible to the CRTC. They are receiving technical advice, I believe, both from Transport and the new Department of Communications.

Mr. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Mr. Chairman do they hold the hearings?

Mr. Cloutier: Yes, they hold the hearings. Parliament has given them the responsibility to adjudicate and issue licences.

Mr. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): I am glad of this information, Mr. Chairman, because out in our area several applications have been made for new TV stations. So far they have not seen fit to grant any licences. I at least will now know who is directly responsible. Thank you.

Mr. Paproski: Is the Canadian Radio Television Commission responsible for educational broadcasting also, or just cable television?

Mr. Cloutier: Well, they would be involved in licence mandating.

Mr. Paproski: For educational broadcasting.

Mr. Cloutier: I believe so, sir, but they do not operate or have a responsibilty for operating any educational TV.

[*Interpretation*]

tier s'il est au courant du programme du Conseil de la radio-télévision canadienne visant l'expansion de la télévision par câble dans l'est de l'Ontario. Ce n'est peut-être pas le temps de poser cette question, mais depuis deux ans, j'essaie de faire obtenir des licences pour la télévision par câble dans ma région, surtout à Napanee, et je n'obtient jamais de réponse bien nette. On me fait des promesses chaque fois. Et c'est pourquoi je dis que si ce crédit est adopté, en ce qui me concerne, ce sera sur division. Parce que j'estime que le travail qu'ils font est vraiment inefficace pour le moment.

Le président: Vous n'avez pas de question à poser à ce sujet. Monsieur Thomson?

M. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Est-ce que la Commission est responsable de la distribution des licences pour la télévision?

M. Cloutier: Oui. C'est exact.

M. Alkenbrack: Ils le sont présentement. La juridiction, monsieur le président, appartenait auparavant au ministère des Transports, mais a maintenant été transférée au CRTC, je crois.

M. Cloutier: Ils sont responsables envers le CRTC. Ils reçoivent des renseignements techniques aussi du ministère des Transports et du nouveau ministère des Communications, si je comprends bien.

M. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Monsieur le président, y a-t-il des audiences?

M. Cloutier: Il y a des audiences, je crois, des audiences publiques. Le Parlement leur a donné la responsabilité d'accorder et d'octroyer des permis.

M. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Je suis heureux de l'entendre, monsieur le président, parce que dans ma région il y a eu beaucoup de demandes pour installer de nouvelles stations de télévision et je suis heureux de savoir qui en est responsable exactement. Merci.

M. Paproski: Le Conseil de la radio-télévision canadienne est-il responsable aussi des permis aux fins d'éducation, ou seulement de la télévision par câble?

M. Cloutier: Eh bien, ils seraient mêlés à l'attribution des permis.

M. Paproski: Pour la télévision éducative?

M. Cloutier: Je le crois, monsieur, ils n'exploitent pas ou n'ont pas la responsabilité pour l'exploitation de la télévision éducative.

[*Texte*]

Mr. Paproski: You are sure of that?

Mr. Cloutier: Certainly.

Mr. Alkenbrack: My concern, Mr. Chairman, arose from a request from certain interests in the town of Napanee who were willing to install and conduct a cable television business in the town. They made requests first to the Department of Transport and, after the jurisdiction passed to the CRTC, they made requests of it. They have asked me to make requests, which I have done several times. They claim that they have a long backlog, something like 600, of similar requests from all over Canada and that they are going to deal with them sometime in the future.

• 1020

Now what Mr. Thomson brought up, Mr. Chairman—the operation of radio and television stations—is a different matter than the granting of cable television licences. There is now a long list of hearings. I believe every private member has a list of the hearings that are being held, some of them in Ottawa, for the granting of licences.

Last month's list contained something over a hundred radio and TV operating requests, but my request regarding cable television was not among them. We are getting nothing but a runaround. Now the need for it in the town of Napanee, which I particularly refer to, is great because television reception is very poor there owing to the town being in a hollow. They also need it for educational purposes. They could use it in the schools all through Ontario—in fact all through Canada. That is why I say if this item passes it will pass on division. They are not getting any value for their money.

The Chairman: Mr. Marchand?

Mr. Marchand (Kamloops-Cariboo): I would like to join in with Mr. Alkenbrack on this particular point. I have been trying to get cablevision for my area as well, but I am going to give them a little time though. This is a new body and I think it is perhaps a little unfair to expect them to clean up all of the backlog in the short time they have been operating.

I have gone to see them about this and I must say that I have been very happy with the reception I have had and their explanations about why they have not been able to hold hearings for a cablevision licence for Kamloops. Some of the people came as a delegation to the Regina hearing and the Mayor's

[*Interprétation*]

M. Paproski: Vous en êtes sûr?

M. Cloutier: Certainement.

M. Alkenbrack: Ce qui m'inquiète, monsieur le président, on m'a présenté une demande en vue d'installer et d'exploiter la télévision à antenne commune dans la ville de Napanee. On a fait des demandes d'abord au ministère des Transports et ensuite lorsque la compétence a été accordée au CRTC, alors on m'a demandé de faire cette demande, ce que j'ai fait à plusieurs reprises. Ils estiment qu'ils ont beaucoup de travail en retard et que c'est-à-dire qu'il y a beaucoup de demandes d'accumulées de toutes les parties du Canada, peut-être 600 demandes.

Et, quand procédera-t-on à l'étude de la question que M. Thomson a posée, monsieur le président, porte sur une autre question. Il s'agit de l'exploitation de stations de radio et de télévision, il s'agit d'une question différente, il ne s'agit pas d'accorder des permis de télévision à antenne commune. Il y a maintenant une longue liste de demandes et tous les députés le savent. Il y a eu beaucoup d'audiences à Ottawa.

Le mois dernier, il y a eu plus de cent de ces demandes en vue de l'exploitation de stations de radio et de télévision, ma demande au sujet de télévision à antenne commune ne semble pas aller bien loin. Je pense que le besoin est très grand dans ce domaine parce que la réception des émissions de télévision est très faible dans cette région à cause de certains facteurs géographiques. Il y a aussi un besoin de télévision éducative dans toutes les régions de l'Ontario et du Canada.

Le président: Monsieur Marchand?

M. Marchand (Kamloops-Cariboo): J'aimerais appuyer M. Alkenbrack sur ce point particulier. J'ai cherché à obtenir la télévision à antenne commune dans ma région mais il faut leur donner un peu de temps. C'est un nouvel organisme et je pense qu'il est injuste que l'on s'attende à ce qu'il élimine en si peu de temps toutes les demandes en retard. J'ai été très bien reçu, et les explications que m'ont données les représentants de cet organisme vis-à-vis de leur impossibilité de tenir une audience concernant un permis d'antenne commune pour Kamloops. Certains des intéressés sont allés en délégation à l'audience tenue à Regina. Le représentant du maire et les représentants de la Chambre de commerce

[*Text*]

representative and the representatives of the Chamber of Commerce went back with a pretty darn good feeling that the CRTC body is really performing an excellent function and the fellows who were doing the job were pretty great guys.

I share some of your concerns and I would like to see more television into my area. Perhaps the viewing area of Kamloops alone is about 55,000. We certainly want an extra channel on the twin stick, but I think we will have to be realistic, too. The economy of the area can only support a certain amount, but we are hoping that perhaps we can get in cable television. Perhaps we should get together later on and go to see them.

Mr. Robinson: Mr. Chairman, perhaps members of all parties would agree with me that we should have the telephone companies in the country providing this cable TV service since all of their poles and wires, and so on, are being used at any rate and it is all readily available. Let us get busy on it and work together.

The Chairman: Gentlemen, I think we have gone astray from vote 40b. It was very interesting to hear whatever you had to say. If you agree we will carry that vote on division.

Item 40b agreed to on division.

SOLICITOR GENERAL

A—Department

Vote 1b—Departmental Administration, including Grants as detailed in the Estimates—$1

Departmental Administration

University Scholarships in the Social Sciences—$25,000

Less: Funds available in the Revised Estimates, 1968-69—$24,999

Total—$1

Mr. Robinson: I have a question Mr. Chairman. I notice University Scholarships in Social Sciences. Is this a new program?

Mr. Cloutier: This is a relatively new program, sir. For many years the Department of the Solicitor General has experienced difficulty in recruiting qualified personnel. This item is for a post-graduate university scholarship program for students in the Social Sciences which in essence provides for 10 scholarships per year at $2,500 each, including a proviso that a commitment be given by the recipient to enter into employment in the Department of the Solicitor General, the Parole Board or

[*Interpretation*]

sont rentrés en ayant presque la certitude que le CRTC pouvait réaliser un travail très sérieux et que les fonctionnaires qui s'en occupent sont très capables.

Je partage vos inquiétudes et je voudrais qu'il y ait davantage de postes de télévision dans ma région. Et, nous voulons certainement avoir un autre canal. Il faut être réaliste également. L'économie de la région ne peut supporter qu'un certain montant. C'est pourquoi nous espérons obtenir l'antenne communautaire. Nous devrons peut-être retourner voir le Conseil.

M. Robinson: Peut-être que les membres de tous les partis reconnaîtront que si les compagnies de téléphone fournissaient ce service de télévision par câble en utilisant leurs installations ce serait très utile.

Le président: Mais, nous sommes très loin du crédit 40b. Même si ce que vous avez dit est très intéressant, je pense qu'il faudrait adopter ce crédit 40b à la pluralité des voix.

Le crédit 40b est adopté sur division.

SOLLICITEUR GÉNÉRAL

A—Ministère

Crédit 1b—Administration centrale, y compris des subventions selon le détail des affectations—$1

Administration Centrale

Bourses universitaires en sciences sociales —$25,000

Moins: Sommes disponibles dans le Budget revisé des dépenses de 1968-1969—$24,999

Total—$1

M. Robinson: Une question, M. le président. Est-ce que les bourses universitaires en sciences sociales constituent un nouveau programme?

M. Cloutier: C'est un programme relativement nouveau. Le ministère du Solliciteur général a eu de la difficulté à recruter un personnel qualifié et ce crédit est destiné à un programme de bourse destinées à des étudiants suivant des cours d'études supérieures en sciences sociales. On accorde 10 bourses par année, d'un montant de $2,500. pour autant que les étudiants s'engagent à travailler ensuite pour le ministère du Solliciteur général, pour la Commission des libérations

[*Texte*]

the Penitentiary Service on the basis of a year's employment for each year of assistance after graduation.

Mr. Robinson: Are these scholarships for Canadians only, or does this apply to foreign students as well?

Mr. Cloutier: I am afraid, sir, that I do not know the answer to that specific question.

Mr. Robinson: I would like to have the answer to that question some time before we finish these Estimates.

• 1025

I notice that the Estimates are increased for 1969-70 from $25,000 to $32,000. Does this indicate that the same number of students would be assisted by an increased grant, or is it for additional students?

Mr. Cloutier: I can also obtain that information, sir.

Mr. Robinson: Would all of these people have a commitment with the Solicitor General's department only, or would they have a commitment with some other department?

Mr. Cloutier: The Solicitor General's department includes the National Parole Board and the Canadian Penitentiary Service where correction work in the government is concentrated.

Mr. Robinson: Would you be able to give us information about who the students are at the present time in the Department who are receiving this grant?

Mr. Cloutier: I may not be able to get that far this afternoon, sir, but we will give it to you later if you wish.

Mr. Robinson: Do you know what universities they are attending?

Mr. Cloutier: I do not.

Mr. Robinson: Perhaps you could let us know whether any of them are attending Sir George Williams University in Montreal.

Mr. Cloutier: Now that the list of your questions has grown, would it be acceptable for us to supply this information by correspondence, rather than verbally this afternoon?

Mr. Robinson: I do not think the questions are really that difficult to provide for the Committee.

Mr. Cloutier: I will try to get the answers at noon hour.

[*Interprétation*]

conditionelles, et du Service pénitentiaire, sur la base d'une année de service par bourse annuelle après la collation des grades.

M. Robinson: Est-ce que c'est seulement pour les Canadiens ou aussi pour les étudiants étrangers?

M. Cloutier: Je ne peux pas répondre à cette question.

M. Robinson: J'aimerais bien qu'on y réponde avant la fin de cette étude. Je constate que le crédit a été augmenté pour 1969-1970 de $25,000 à $32,000. Est-ce qu'il y aura le même nombre d'étudiants qui seront aidés? Est-ce qu'ils recevront une aide accrue? Est-ce qu'il y aura davantage d'étudiants?

M. Cloutier: Je peux aussi m'informer à ce sujet.

M. Robinson: Est-ce que ces étudiants ont un devoir à remplir uniquement auprès du ministère du Solliciteur général ou cela s'appliquera-t-il aussi à d'autres ministères?

M. Cloutier: Le ministère du Solliciteur général comprend la Commission des libérations conditionnelles et le service pénitentaire canadien.

M. Robinson: Pourriez-vous nous donner des renseignements? Par exemple, quels sont les étudiants à l'intérieur du ministère qui reçoivent actuellement ces subventions?

M. Cloutier: Je ne pourrais pas vous donner ce renseignement cet après-midi, mais peut-être plus tard.

M. Robinson: Quelles sont les universités où ils sont inscrits?

M. Cloutier: Je ne sais pas non plus.

M. Robinson: Pourriez-vous nous dire, si certains de ces étudiants étaient inscrits à Sir George William, à Montréal?

M. Cloutier: Je pense que nous pourrions vous donner ces renseignements par écrit au lieu de vous les communiquer oralement cet après-midi.

M. Robinson: Je ne pense pas que ces questions soient tellement difficiles à élucider.

M. Cloutier: J'essaierai d'obtenir ces renseignements vers midi.

[*Text*]

The Chairman: He has only the noon hour, because we start again at 3.30 this afternoon. Will you see what you can do, Mr. Cloutier?

Mr. Cloutier: I will get my officers to work on it right away and try to provide the answers this afternoon.

The Chairman: They are all very good questions.

Mr. Robinson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Items 1b and 7b agreed to.

Vote 8b—Reimbursement of the Supply Service Revolving Fund established by Loans, Investments and Advances Vote L18e, Appropriation Act No. 4, 1966, for the supply of certain goods and services to federal government departments, and agencies, for the value of inventory shortages, and for stores which have become obsolete or unserviceable in the fiscal years 1967-68 and 1968-69 and to authorize the transfer of $105,162 from Supply and Services Vote 5, Appropriation Act No. 4, 1968 for the purposes of this Vote—$1

Reimbursement—$105,163

Less: Funds available in Supply and Services Vote 5 of the Revised Estimates, 1968-69—$105,162

Total—$1

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): This is a transfer from one fund to another. Is this due to the reorganization of departments?

Mr. Cloutier: No, sir; this is a write-off of inventory losses; the items that have become obsolete and unserviceable. This is the writing off of a loss of a revolving fund. This revolving fund is now in the Department of Supply and Services, but this is the old DDP revolving fund.

Mr. Robinson: A merry-go-round revolving fund.

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): Let me see: DDP had a revolving fund from which it absorbed losses on inventory and unserviceability, and so forth. Is that it?

Mr. Cloutier: No; this is a revolving fund which carries supply items. When they are bought they are bought through the revolving

[*Interpretation*]

Le président: Nous commencerons à 3 heures et demie, cet après-midi. Vous allez peut-être voir ce que vous pouvez faire pour obtenir ces renseignements?

M. Cloutier: Oui, j'essaierai d'obtenir la réponse pour cet après-midi.

Le président: Ce sont de très bonnes questions.

M. Robinson: Merci, monsieur le président.

Les crédits 1b et 7b sont adoptés.

Crédit 8b—Remboursement de la Caisse renouvelable des services d'approvisionnements, établie par le crédit L18e (Prêts, placements et avances), Loi des subsides nº 4 de 1966, pour la fourniture de certaines marchandises et services aux ministères et organismes du gouvernement fédéral, pour la valeur des manquants d'inventaire et pour le matériel devenu désuet ou inutilisable au cours des années financières 1967-1968 et 1968-1969, et autorisation du transfert de $105,-162 du crédit 5 (Approvisionnements et Services), Loi nº 4 de 1968 portant affectation de crédits, aux fins du présent crédit—$1

Remboursement—$105,163

Moins: Sommes disponibles dans le crédit 5 (Approvisionnements et Services) du Budget revisé des dépenses de 1968-1969—$105,162

Total—$1

M. Lambert (Edmonton-Ouest): Il s'agit là d'un transfert d'un fonds à l'autre. Cela est-il dû à la réorganisation du ministère?

M. Cloutier: Non, il s'agit d'un amortissement de pertes à l'inventaire au sujet d'un certain nombre d'articles qui étaient devenus désuets et inutilisables. Ceci concerne un amortissement automatique sur une caisse renouvelable. Cette caisse est maintenant du ressort du ministère de l'Approvisionnement et des Services, mais elle était auparavant aux mains du ministère de la Production de Défense.

M. Robinson: Une caisse renouvelable qui est un véritable carrousel.

M. Lambert (Edmonton-Ouest): L'ancien organisme avait une caisse renouvelable qui permettait de compenser les pertes sur inventaire, etc... Est-ce ce compte-là?

M. Cloutier: C'est une caisse renouvelable dont le but est de comptabiliser les approvisionnements. L'achat est débité au compte et

[*Texte*]

fund and when they are sold to the various departments the departments are billed and the revolving fund is replenished. Now, in their inventory holdings there are items of stationery or machine repair parts that have been on hand for many years and have become obsolete and unserviceable, and these are declared surplus to the Crown Assets Corporation for disposal.

Since the value of these parts was carried in the inventory of the revolving fund, that amount has to be replenished to the revolving fund or else, over a period of years, the full value of the revolving fund would continually diminish.

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): There is an item there also for inventory shortages. Does this figure mean much? Have we shoplifters in there too?

Mr. Cloutier: No, I do not believe so, sir. The usual internal control mechanisms are in place and the information I have here is that this reimbursement covers stationery which has become obsolete and machine repair parts that have been on hand for many years, which have been assessed as obsolete and unserviceable. There may be inventory discrepancies; that is quite possible.

• 1030

Mr. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Are you suggesting that this is not a great problem?

Mr. Cloutier: No, this is not a problem. The value of the inventory as of January 31, 1969 was $4.5 million and this item for unserviceable inventory holdings is $100,000.

The Chairman: You know very well, Mr. Lambert, that inventory discrepancies happen in private industry too.

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): Granted, but...

The Chairman: So long as it is restricted to a minimum...

Mr. Cloutier: If I may be permitted to say so, Mr. Chairman, the system of controlling inventories provides that before a department can recommend to the Treasury Board an inclusion of such an item in the Supplementary Estimates for a write-off, each item making up this total has to be investigated by a board of survey made up of three individuals who are not connected with the operation of the operating account.

Mr. Robinson: Do I understand, Mr. Chairman, that there is an operating loss because

[*Interprétation*]

lorsque les articles sont livrés aux différents ministères, ces derniers sont facturés et le compte est crédité. Dans les inventaires, il y a certains articles de papeterie et certaines pièces de remplacement pour des machines qui sont en stock depuis de nombreuses années et qui deviennent désuets et inutilisables. Ces articles sont alors considérés comme surplus et sont envoyés à la Corporation des dispositions des biens de la Couronne. Étant donné que la valeur de ces articles figurait encore dans l'inventaire de cette caisse renouvelable, ce montant doit être crédité à ce compte; sinon, au cours des années, la caisse renouvelable diminuerait constamment.

M. Lambert (Edmonton-Ouest): Il y a là aussi un poste concernant les déficits d'inventaires. Qu'est-ce que cela signifie? Avez-vous aussi des vols à l'étalage?

M. Cloutier: Non, je ne crois pas. Le contrôle interne fonctionne, et les renseignements qui m'ont été donnés visent uniquement des objects devenus désuets et inutilisables. Qu'il y ait des manques à l'inventaire, cela est fort possible.

M. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Voulez-vous dire qu'il s'agit là d'un problème de peu d'importance?

M. Cloutier: Ce n'est pas un problème. La valeur de l'inventaire au 31 janvier 1969 était de quatre millions et demi de dollars et ce poste n'était que d'environ $100,000.

Le président: Vous savez très bien M. Lambert que de tels manques à l'inventaire se produisent aussi dans l'entreprise privée.

M. Lambert (Edmonton-Ouest): D'accord, mais...

Le président: Dans la mesure où ces chiffres sont restreints au minimum.

M. Cloutier: Cette façon d'établir un contrôle de l'inventaire permet au ministère de recommander au Conseil du trésor d'établir des crédits dans le budget supplémentaire en vue de l'amortissement, de telle sorte que, chaque article qui compose le total doit être étudié par une commission de 3 membres qui n'est pas rattachée à l'exploitation, au fonctionnement de ce compte d'exploitation.

M. Robinson: Dois-je comprendre, monsieur le président, qu'il y a une perte d'exploitation

[*Text*]

the equipment that was purchased and carried on inventory becomes absolescent or obsolete?

Mr. Cloutier: That is right this is the largest part of it. For example, a typewriter make was purchased 10 or 15 years ago with a certain amount of spare parts and over the years those spare parts were not all used. The original equipment is out of condition and no longer used. Rather than carry the spare parts on your shelf which occupy space you get rid of them, and you have to write them off.

Mr. Robinson: I have a tape recorder, in my office Mr. Chairman, which I assume would fall into this category of being obsolete or obsolescent.

Mr. Cloutier: The difference there, sir, is that the tape recorder is not carried in this account. It has been sold, presumably to the House of Commons.

Mr. Robinson: Normally if you can dispose of it from one department to another you dispose of it at the cost in your inventory, is that it?

Mr. Cloutier: Here we have an explanation of what it costs—the cost of operating the inventory accounts so that there would . . .

Mr. Robinson: No, but you allow for depreciation on your accounts, do you not?

Mr. Cloutier: Not in the stores revolving account because you would only allow for the expenditures directly related to those stores. This would include presumably the salaries of the people operating the stores accounts and that sort of thing.

Mr. Robinson: If the House of Commons took over from Supply a number of tape recorders, they would be taking them over at a cost to you even though they might be obsolete or obsolescent.

Mr. Cloutier: Yes.

Mr. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): But you do in other departments allow for depreciation, do you not?

Mr. Cloutier: No, the system of accounting in the government does not usually provide for depreciation.

Mr. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Oh, I see.

Item 8b agreed to.

On Item 15b: Services.

[*Interpretation*]

parce que l'équipement acheté et inscrit à l'inventaire est devenu désuet.

M. Cloutier: C'est juste. C'est la majeure partie. Par exemple, une machine à écrire qui a été achetée il y a 10 ou 15 ans avec un certain nombre de pièces de rechange et dont ces pièces de rechange n'ont pas toutes été utilisées au cours des années; la machine elle-même étant devenue désuète il faut alors se débarrasser de ces pièces inutiles. Plutôt que de conserver ces pièces de rechange, qui occupent trop de place, vous vous en débarrassez et vous en amortissez le coût.

M. Robinson: J'ai un magnétophone dans mon bureau, monsieur le président, qui pourrait être dans cette catégorie des choses désuètes.

M. Cloutier: La différence, monsieur, c'est que le magnétophone n'est pas inscrit dans ce compte. Il a sans doute été vendu à la Chambre des communes.

M. Robinson: Normalement, si l'on peut revendre quelque chose d'un ministère à l'autre, cela se revend au prix indiqué dans l'inventaire, n'est-ce pas?

M. Cloutier: Nous avons ici une explication de ce que cela coûte—des coûts d'administration des comptes d'inventaire, de sorte que . . .

M. Robinson: Non, mais vous tenez compte de la dépréciation, n'est-ce pas, dans vos comptes?

M. Cloutier: Pas dans le compte renouvelable des magasins, car on ne tiendrait compte que des dépenses qui se rattachent directement à ces magasins. Cela inclurait sans doute le traitement des gens qui administrent les comptes des magasins, et ainsi de suite.

M. Robinson: Si la Chambre des communes retirait des magnétophones du ministère des Approvisionnements, cela vous coûterait quelque chose, même s'ils étaient désuets.

M. Cloutier: Oui.

M. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Mais, dans les autres ministères, on tient compte de la dépréciation, n'est-ce pas?

M. Cloutier: Non, le système de comptabilité du gouvernement ne prévoit généralement pas la dépréciation.

M. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Je vois.

Le crédit 8b est adopté.

Sur le crédit 15b.

[*Texte*]

Services

Vote 15b—Administration—To extend the purposes of Supply and Services Vote 15, Appropriation Act No. 4, 1968 to include authority to spend the proceeds received from the sale of data processing equipment—$1

Central office and branch office administration

Acquisition of Equipment and Furnishings —$4,000,000

Less: Proceeds from the sale of data processing equipment—$3,999,999

Total—$1

Mr. Cloutier: This item is sought to provide the Department with the authority necessary to make a new rental arrangement for the computer equipment it now has. The Department recommends that it be empowered to exercise its option to purchase this equipment, as provided in its rental agreement. When title to the equipmenat is obtained it will sell the equipment to a third party at the same price as it has purchased it and then will lease it back from the third party at a lesser rental rate, so that the operating savings in the course of a year are estimated at $400,000. In other words, the supplier of equipment is renting this equipment at—the figure that sticks in my mind is either $43,000 or $47,000—no, $107,000 a month. And this rental arrangement has a purchase option built into it.

By exercising that option the Department in effect would be acquiring for $4 million a piece of equipment whose market price now would be in the neighbourhood of $5 million. It does not want to acquire it and hold it; it wants to sell it to a third party, to a company which is in the business of renting computer equipment to various clients, and the rental agreement that this third party is prepared to enter into would provide for a lower rental arrangement for the same equipment, thereby producing an operating savings of $400,000 a year.

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): Who is the third party and how was the third party chosen? It seems to me perhaps a little odd that he has been chosen either by negotiation or direct without calling for tenders, which you would require for other services. Could you elaborate on that, Mr. Cloutier?

Mr. Cloutier: My recollection of this case, sir, is that the Department invited two or three companies to tender who were in the business of renting computer equipment which they themselves do not make. Because

[*Interprétation*]

Services

Crédit 15b—Administration—Extension de la portée du crédit 15 (Approvisionnements et Services), Loi nº 4 de 1968 portant affectation de crédits, en vue d'autoriser la dépense du produit de la vente de matériel de traitement des données—$1

Administration du bureau central et des bureaux auxiliaires

Acquisition de matériel et d'ameublement— $4,000,000

Moins: Produit de la vente de matériel de traitement des données—$3,999,999

Total—$1

M. Cloutier: Ce crédit a pour but de donner au Ministère pouvoir de signer un nouveau contrat de location pour le matériel de traitement des données dont il dispose actuellement. Le Ministère voudrait avoir pouvoir d'exercer son option d'achat de cet équipement, qui est indiquée dans son contrat de location. Lorsqu'il obtiendra le droit à ce matériel, il le revendra à une tierce partie au prix d'achat, et le louera ensuite de cette tierce partie à un prix de location inférieur, de sorte que les économies d'exploitation au cours d'une année sont évaluées à $400,000. Autrement dit, le fournisseur du matériel le loue pour—le chiffre que j'ai à l'esprit est $43,000 ou $47,000—non, $107,000 par mois. Et ce contrat de location prévoit une option d'achat.

S'il exercait son option, le Ministère obtiendrait pour 4 millions de dollars du matériel dont le prix sur le marché à l'heure actuelle irai chercher dans les 5 millions de dollars. Il ne veut pas l'acheter et le conserver, il veut le vendre à une tierce partie, à une société qui s'occupe de louer du matériel de traitement des données à divers clients. Et le contrat de location que cette tierce partie est prête à signer prévoirait un prix de location inférieur, pour le même matériel, si bien que le Ministère réaliserait une économie de $400,000 par an sur l'exploitation.

M. Lambert (Edmonton-Ouest): Qui est cette tierce partie, et comment l'a-t-on choisie? Il me semble un peu étrange qu'on l'ait choisie par voie de négociations ou directement, sans faire l'appel d'offres que l'on exige pour d'autres services. Pourriez-vous nous expliquer cela, monsieur Cloutier?

M. Cloutier: Pour autant que je me souvienne, monsieur, le Ministère a fait un appel d'offres auprès de deux ou trois sociétés qui s'occupent de la location de matériel de traitement des données qu'elles ne fabriquent pas

[*Text*]

their overhead costs are lower and because they do not themselves carry out manufacturing and research equipment activities, they are in a position to rent this equipment at a lower rate than does the manufacturer. This is a reflection, I would imagine, of the pricing policies of the manufacturers themselves.

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): Is this sale to the third party for cash?

• 1035

Mr. Cloutier: Yes, sir, and this vote will so authorize.

The Chairman: That is why you have the words "Less: Proceeds," sir?

Mr. Cloutier: That is right.

The Chairman: When it is sold to the third party.

Mr. Cloutier: That is right.

The Chairman: "Proceeds from the sale of data processing equipment."

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): Are they satisfied that the rental company is able to maintain the equipment, and that if there is a breakdown in equipment it will be able to supply...

Mr. Cloutier: A saving will be achieved and in calculating it there is a continued maintenance contract with the original supplier. In other words, the Department will rent its computer from the third party but that same computer will be maintained by the original supplier. And the net benefit is an operating saving of $400,000 a year.

Mr. McCutcheon: Just in review so that what you said is clear in my mind, the Department purchases this thing on a lease, rental basis to be paid for over a period of years.

Mr. Cloutier: Originally it did not purchase the equipment, it rented it. But the rental rate included a purchase option which in effect accumulated an amount of credit.

Mr. McCutcheon: In other words, the rental went into a fund towards the purchase of it.

Mr. Cloutier: That is right.

Mr. McCutcheon: Now we have got it bought at "X" dollars, then we turn around and sell it at exactly what it cost us...

[*Interpretation*]

elles-mêmes. Étant donné qu'elles ont des frais généraux moins élevés, et qu'elles n'ont pas à s'occuper elles-mêmes des recherches ou de la fabrication, elles peuvent louer cet équipement à un prix moins élevé que ne le fait le fabricant. Ceci reflète bien, je crois, la politique des fabricants en matière de prix.

M. Lambert (Edmonton-Ouest): Est-ce que cette vente à la tierce partie doit se faire pour de l'argent comptant?

M. Cloutier: Oui, monsieur, et ce crédit en donnera l'autorisation.

Le président: C'est pourquoi, monsieur, on précise: «Moins: produit»?

M. Cloutier: C'est exact.

Le président: Lorsque le matériel a été vendu à la tierce partie.

M. Cloutier: C'est exact.

Le président: «Produit de la vente de matériel de traitement des données».

M. Lambert (Edmonton-Ouest): Est-on certain que la société de location est en mesure d'entretenir le matériel, et qu'en cas de panne, elle pourra fournir...

M. Cloutier: On va réaliser une économie, et, en la calculant, on a prévu le maintien d'un contrat d'entretien avec le fournisseur original. Autrement dit, le Ministère louera son ordinateur de la tierce partie, mais cet ordinateur sera entretenu par le fournisseur original. Et le bénéfice net est une économie de $400,000 par an sur l'exploitation.

M. McCutcheon: Juste pour répéter, afin que ce soit bien clair dans mon esprit, le Ministère achète donc ce matériel sur la base d'une location, et doit le payer en un certain nombre d'années.

M. Cloutier: A l'origine, il n'a pas acheté le matériel; il l'a loué. Mais le prix de location englobait une option d'achat, et, en fait, permettait d'accumuler un certain montant de crédit.

M. McCutcheon: Autrement dit, les montants payés pour la location ont été versés dans une caisse et seront affectés à l'achat.

M. Cloutier: C'est exact.

M. McCutcheon: Nous avons donc maintenant acheté ce matériel pour «X» dollars, puis nous allons le revendre exactement au prix de revient...

[*Texte*]

Mr. Cloutier: Yes.

Mr. McCutcheon: ...and then we rent it back from somebody else at less money than from the manufacturer.

Mr. Cloutier: That is right, sir.

The Chairman: Than we could rent it from the manufacturer. That process is going on in private industry as well. I know at my office we bought equipment that way.

Mr. McCutcheon: I am not disputing that; I just want to have it abundantly clear. Maybe I can try it myself.

Mr. Cloutier: That is exactly it. You can rent the same equipment which is installed now, and which will not change place, and which will not change its configuration, from the third party for $400,000 less, including the provision for maintenance, than you can from the original supplier.

Mr. Robinson: And you say that the interest or carrying charges are less?

Mr. Cloutier: It is not only that. I think it is a function of the pricing policy of the original supplier.

Mr. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Does this third party use this computer for other services?

Mr. Cloutier: It will be completely at the disposal of the Department.

Mr. Paproski: One question here, Mr. Cloutier. You were saying that this data processing does not perform any functions but your own functions?

Mr. Cloutier: No, it is not our functions.

Mr. Paproski: The government's function?

Mr. Cloutier: That is right.

Mr. Paproski: And the third party does not have any other contracts?

Mr. Cloutier: Oh, yes, they have other computers rented to other people, but this particular piece of equipment...

Mr. Paproski: Not the equipment but the work, the data work. Do they do it only for the government or do they do it for other customers also?

Mr. Cloutier: Only for the government. This is a computer operated by the Department of Services and Supply for the requirements of the government.

[*Interprétation*]

M. Cloutier: Oui.

M. McCutcheon: ... et ensuite, nous le relouerons de quelqu'un d'autre à un prix inférieur de celui auquel nous le louions du fabricant.

M. Cloutier: C'est exact, monsieur.

Le président: De celui auquel nous pouvions le louer du fabricant. Cela se fait aussi dans l'industrie privée. Je sais qu'à mon bureau, nous avons acheté du matériel de cette façon.

M. McCutcheon: Je ne le nie pas; je veux simplement que ce soit bien clair. Peut-être pourrais-je en faire autant.

M. Cloutier: C'est exactement cela. On peut louer le même matériel—celui qui est installé à l'heure actuelle, et qui ne changera ni de place ni de configuration—de la tierce partie pour $400,000 de moins que du fournisseur original, et l'entretien est prévu dans ce prix.

M. Robinson: Et vous dites que l'intérêt ou les frais de report sont moins élevés?

M. Cloutier: Ce n'est pas seulement cela. Je crois que cela tient à la politique du fournisseur original en matière de prix.

M. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Cette tierce partie se sert-elle de l'ordinateur pour d'autres services?

M. Cloutier: Non, il sera entièrement à la disposition du ministère.

M. Paproski: Une question, monsieur Cloutier. Vous dites que ce service de traitement des données ne sera utilisé qu'à vos propres fins?

M. Cloutier: Non, pas à nos propres fins.

M. Paproski: Aux fins du gouvernement?

M. Cloutier: C'est exact.

M. Paproski: Et la tierce partie n'a pas d'autres contrats?

M. Cloutier: Elle a d'autres ordinateurs loués à d'autres personnes, mais ce matériel-là ...

M. Paproski: Pas le matériel, mais les travaux, le travail de données. Le font-ils pour le gouvernement seul, ou aussi pour d'autres clients?

M. Cloutier: Pour le gouvernement seulement. C'est un ordinateur exploité par le ministère des Approvisionnements et Services pour les besoins du gouvernement.

[*Text*]

Mr. Gillespie: Would it be on government property?

Mr. Cloutier: Yes, it is installed on government property.

Mr. Robinson: You are not suggesting here that the government is buying computers, are you?

Mr. Cloutier: It does and then sells them right back.

The Chairman: The answer that Mr. Cloutier gave to you, Mr. Paproski, is not too clear. I think what Mr. Paproski wants to know is whether or not that company works strictly for the government.

Mr. Cloutier: No, it does not.

Mr. Paproski: So it does not work only for the government; it works for others.

Mr. Cloutier: The company that rents the computer is a private concern that is in the business of renting computers to anybody who wants one.

Mr. Paproski: I wanted to know whether it does work other than for the government.

Mr. Cloutier: Oh, yes, it does. But the computer itself is now rented by a government department and it does work only for other government departments.

• 1040

Mr. Paproski: Yes, but the same computer could be doing other work outside the government. Is that right?

Mr. Cloutier: But it does not.

The Chairman: Yes, if they would change the program in it. It is a question of the program. That particular machine is programmed for government work but the same machine could work anywhere else if they changed the program in it.

Mr. Paproski: You take the tape out and put another tape in that same machine and it is being used for other than government business.

The Chairman: It could be used, yes.

Mr. Paproski: This is all I wanted to know.

The Chairman: Yes, it seemed confusing at first.

Mr. Paproski: But it is not.

[*Interpretation*]

M. Gillespie: Est-il installé sur la propriété du gouvernement?

M. Cloutier: Oui.

M. Robinson: Vous ne voulez pas dire par là que le gouvernement achète des ordinateurs, n'est-ce pas?

M. Cloutier: Il en achète, puis il les revend.

Le président: La réponse que vous a donnée M. Cloutier n'est pas très claire, monsieur Paproski. Je crois que ce que M. Paproski veut savoir, c'est si la société travaille strictement pour le gouvernement.

M. Cloutier: Non.

M. Paproski: Donc, elle ne travaille pas seulement pour le gouvernement; elle travaille aussi pour d'autres.

M. Cloutier: La société qui loue l'ordinateur est une entreprise privée qui s'occupe de louer des ordinateurs à qui en veut.

M. Paproski: Je voulais savoir si elle travaillait pour d'autres que pour le gouvernement.

M. Cloutier: Oui, bien sûr. Mais l'ordinateur lui-même est actuellement loué par un ministère, et il ne sert qu'à des travaux destinés aux autres ministères.

M. Paproski: Mais est-ce que le même ordinateur travaille pour d'autres en dehors de l'État?

M. Cloutier: Mais non.

Le président: Oui, s'il changeait la programmation: c'est une question de programme, cet ordinateur est programmé pour le service de l'État. Mais le même ordinateur pourrait servir à n'importe quelle entreprise privée.

M. Paproski: On change la bande, et il peut servir à d'autres.

Le président: C'est ça.

M. Paproski: C'est tout ce que je voulais savoir.

Le président: Oui. Cela me paraissait confus au départ.

M. Paproski: Mais, il ne l'est pas.

[*Texte*]

The Chairman: Mr. Robinson.

Mr. Robinson: I am confused, too. Let us start over again. A point of information, Mr. Chairman. Do I understand that you rent computers or you can buy computers?

Mr. Cloutier: You can do both and both approaches are followed.

The Chairman: Yes. They get a better deal when they rent them.

Mr. Gundlock: Mr. Chairman, this may be a silly question, but why buy the thing in the first place? If you can rent them cheaper why do you not rent them in the first instance?

Mr. Cloutier: In this instance the supplier entered into a rental agreement with the Department of Supply and Services and at this moment, the computer is rented from the supplier at a cost, as I recall, of $107,000 a month.

The Department has an option with the supplier to buy that computer. The third party does not have an option to buy that computer and the Department, by exercising that option, can acquire the computer and then turn around and sell it to the third party for exactly the same amount of money.

Once the title to the computer has passed to the third party, the third party is prepared to rent it to the Department, including the maintenance service, for its whole and exclusive use at an annual fee which is $400,000 a year lower than the amount the Department, now pays for the computer. So that in effect, on a cost benefit basis, this is a very good transaction.

Mr. Gundlock: Perhaps we should put this question to the computer!

The Chairman: Mr. Thomson.

Mr. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Just to pursue this a little bit further, it seems to me that the original supplier has taken us a little bit here.

• 1045

Mr. Cloutier: I referred earlier to the pricing policies of the original supplier.

Mr. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): But in effect you are saying that because they are the only ones that produce computers of this nature we must go to them, and they are going to charge us because they have a monopoly position, or something like this?

Mr. Gillespie: Mr. Chairman, would it be fair to say that a user has three alternatives;

[*Interprétation*]

Le président: M. Robinson.

M. Robinson: Je voudrais avoir un renseignement, monsieur le président. Est-ce que vous louez des ordinateurs ou vous les achetez?

M. Cloutier: On peut faire les deux.

Le président: Mais, les conditions de location sont plus favorables.

M. Gundlock: Pourquoi les acheter alors? Si vous pouvez les louer à meilleur marché, pourquoi les acheter?

M. Cloutier: Dans ce cas, le fournisseur a conclu un contrat de location avec le ministère de l'Approvisionnement et des services. L'ordinateur est loué par le fournisseur, $107,000 par mois.

Le Ministère a la possibilité d'acheter cet ordinateur. Un tiers parti n'aurait pas cette possibilité. Le ministère peut acheter l'ordinateur et plus tard le vendre à un tiers parti pour le même montant.

Lorsque la propriété de l'ordinateur passe au tiers parti, ce dernier est disposé à le louer au Ministère pour son usage exclusif moyennant des honoraires annuels, y compris les frais d'entretien, de $4,000 de moins par année que ce que le gouvernement paye maintenant. C'est donc une excellente affaire.

M. Gundlock: Il conviendrait peut-être de poser cette question à l'ordinateur.

Le président: M. Thomson.

M. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Pour poursuivre son examen. Il me semble que le premier fournisseur nous a joués un peu.

M. Cloutier: J'ai parlé tout à l'heure de la politique des prix du fournisseur.

M. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): En fait, vous dites que c'est parce qu'ils sont les seuls à fabriquer des ordinateurs de ce genre qu'il faut s'adresser à eux et que, parce qu'ils en ont le monopole ils peuvent fixer leur prix?

M. Gillespie: Est-il juste de dire que l'utilisateur a trois possibilités, soit d'acheter le

[*Text*]

he can buy the piece of equipment from the manufacturer, he can rent the piece of equipment from the manufacturer or he can rent the same piece of equipment from a third party. All we are doing here is arranging matters so that the government can rent this piece of equipment from a third party, and they can rent it from a third party at a better rate than they can rent if from the manufacture because the manufacturer is in the business of making and selling, he is not in the business of renting and, as you say, the pricing policy is less attractive.

Mr. Cloutier: That is the way I feel.

Mr. Gillespie: Does that help?

Mr. Cloutier: Yes.

The Chairman: Mr. Peddle.

Mr. Peddle: Mr. Chairman, why does the third party not buy it from the manufacturer and then rent it?

Mr. Cloutier: As a matter of fact, you will sell it to a third party.

Mr. Peddle: Obviously protecting his interest yes.

Mr. Cloutier: Whereas the manufacturer has no option to sell it to the Department because the Department has an option to buy it.

Mr. Peddle: It sounds like a pretty good deal.

Mr. Cloutier: Yes, we are making $400,000.

The Chairman: Shall Vote 16b carry? Mr. McCutcheon?

Mr. McCutcheon: I believe this question was answered but perhaps I did not hear the answer. We get cash when we sell these computers. Is that right?

The Chairman: Yes.

Mr. Cloutier: Yes.

Mr. McCutcheon: And we immediately turn over the cash to the manufacturer?

Mr. Cloutier: Yes.

Mr. McCutcheon: And we get cash?

The Chairman: Mr. McCutcheon, if you look up the item you will see in small print there:

> Less: Proceeds from the sale of data processing equipment...

We get the proceeds.

[*Interpretation*]

matériel, le louer du fournisseur ou le louer d'une tierce partie. Tout ce que nous faisons c'est arranger les choses afin que l'État puisse le louer d'une tierce partie à un prix inférieur au prix de location du fournisseur, parce que celui-ci cherche plutôt à vendre. Sa politique des prix est moins favorable.

M. Cloutier: C'est ce qu'il me semble.

M. Gillespie: Est-ce que cela aide?

M. Cloutier: Oui.

Le président: M. Peddle.

M. Peddle: Monsieur le président, pourquoi est-ce que le tiers ne l'achète pas du fabricant pour le louer.

M. Cloutier: En fait, vous allez le vendre à un tiers.

M. Peddle: Il protège ses intérêts.

M. Cloutier: Le fabricant n'a pas la possibilité de le vendre au Ministère mais c'est le Ministère qui a la possibilité d'acheter.

M. Peddle: Dans ce cas, c'est une bonne transaction.

M. Cloutier: Oui. On économise $400,000.

Le président: Le crédit 16b est-il adopté? M. McCutcheon?

M. McCutcheon: La question a déjà été répondue, je crois. Est-ce que quand nous vendons ces ordinateurs, nous les vendons au comptant?

Le président: Oui.

M. Cloutier: Oui.

M. McCutcheon: Et on remet cet argent au fabricant.

M. Cloutier: Oui.

M. McCutcheon: On obtient de l'argent comptant.

Le président: Si vous examinez le poste en cause, vous verrez en petit caractère:

> Moins: Produit de la vente de matériel de traitement des données

Nous obtenons l'argent ...

[*Texte*]

Mr. McCutcheon: Of course, not being an auditor I did not know if that was $39,000 cash plus a joint promissory note for the balance.

Mr. Cloutier: No, no, no.

The Chairman: We get back the same amount.

Vote 15b agreed to.

Vote 16b—reimbursement of the Central Data Processing Service Bureau Working Capital Advance for a portion of the Bureau's operating loss incurred during fiscal year 1967-68 and to authorize the transfer of $128,599 from Supply and Services Vote 5, Appropriation Act No. 4, 1968 for the purposes of this Vote—$1

Reimbursement—$128,600

Less: Funds available in Supply and Services Vote 5 of the Revised Estimates, 1968-69—$128,599

Total—$1

Total, A—General—$4

Mr. Cloutier: The Central Data Processing Bureau charges all of its operating expenditures; it bills the Department for the work it does for them and credits the receipt to the revolving fund established by Parliament for that purpose. As in any operation of this kind, there are periodic major increases in capacity which cannot be fully utilized immediately. This was the case with this Bureau in December of 1967, at which time a second computer was installed, and although the capacity cannot be fully utilized the expenses of maintaining it must be met. So, this has given rise to this particular amount.

It is not unusual in some circumstances to incur operating losses over a period of time when the work load coming into the Bureau catches up with the additional capacity built into it. This supplementary estimate is to reimburse the revolving fund by that amount.

Vote 16b agreed to.

On Vote 3b.

TRANSPORT

A—Department

Vote 3b—Reimbursement of the Department of Transport revolving fund for the value of stores which have become obsolete, unserviceable, lost or destroyed and to authorize the transfer of $299,888 from Transport Vote 1, Appropriation Act No. 4, 1968 for the purposes of this Vote—

[*Interprétation*]

M. McCutcheon: Je ne suis pas vérificateur, je ne savais pas qu'il s'agissait de $39,000 plus un billet à vue pour la balance.

M. Cloutier: Non, non, non.

Le président: Nous obtenons le même montant.

Le crédit 15b est adopté.

Crédit 16b—Remboursement de l'avance du fonds de roulement du Bureau central de traitement des données pour une partie des pertes d'exploitation subies par le Bureau au cours de l'année financière 1967-1968 et autorisation du transfert de $128,599 du crédit 5 (Approvisionnements et Services), Loi nº 4 de 1968 portant affectation de crédits, aux fins du présent crédit—$1

Remboursement—$128,600

Moins: Sommes disponibles dans le crédit 5 (Approvisionnements et Services) du Budget revisé des dépenses de 1968-1969—$128,599

Total—$1

Total: A—Généralités—$4

M. Cloutier: Le Bureau central de traitement des données facture tous ses frais, et tout le travail qu'il fait au ministère en cause et verse les recettes à la caisse renouvelable établie à cette fin par l'État. Comme pour tout travail de ce genre, il y a des augmentations périodiques de capacité qui ne sont pas utilisées immédiatement. C'est le cas qui s'est présenté au Bureau en décembre 1967. A ce moment-là, on a installé un deuxième ordinateur et bien que les capacités ne pouvaient pas être utilisées à fond, les frais d'entretien devaient être payés. D'où l'existence de ce crédit.

Il n'est pas exceptionnel, dans un cas semblable, d'avoir des pertes d'exploitation pour une certaine période lorsque le travail confié au Bureau atteint la capacité de traitement des ordinateurs. De sorte que, ce crédit est destiné à rembourser la caisse renouvelable.

Le crédit 16b est adopté.

TRANSPORTS

A—Ministère

Crédit 3b—Remboursement de la Caisse renouvelable du ministère des Transports pour la valeur du matériel désuet, inutilisable, perdu ou détruit et autorisation du transfert de $299,888 du crédit 1er (Transports), Loi nº 4 de 1968 portant affectation de crédits, aux fins du présent crédit—

[*Text*]

Reimbursement—$299,889

Less: Funds available in Transport Vote 1 of the Revised Estimates 1968-69—$299,888

Total—$1

The Chairman: Mr. Robinson.

Mr. Robinson: Item 3b states in part:

> ... the value of stores which have become obsolete, unserviceable, lost or destroyed...

When we say lost, how could any loss be involved here? How would items be lost?

• 1050

Mr. Cloutier: This is a stores operation which includes all kinds of parts for the operation of the various services of the Department of Transport and to the extent that you have discrepancies between your actual stock-taking and records, these would be losses. They could be lost in actual movements or they could be differences between actual counts and records. They could also be as a result of pilfering.

Mr. Robinson: Would we have any indication as to what kind of stores are involved in a loss operation? In other words, are they attractive stores that might be involved?

Mr. Cloutier: Not really; these are parts for aircraft, parts for ships and it also includes stationery items. It is a very large inventory and last November the value of that inventory was in the neighbourhood of $10,450,000.

Mr. Robinson: What do we mean when we use the term "destroyed"?

Mr. Cloutier: This could be destroyed in the course of installation. It could be destroyed through handling.

Mr. Robinson: Is there any breakdown of the $300,000 as between obsolete, unserviceable, lost or destroyed?

Mr. Cloutier: I do not have the breakdown here, sir.

The Chairman: Are there any questions?

Vote 3b agreed to.

TRANSPORT

Railways and Steamships

Vote 15b—Payments to the Canadian National Railway Company (hereinafter called the Company) upon applications approved by the Minister of Transport

[*Interpretation*]

Remboursement—$299,889

Moins: Sommes disponibles dans le crédit 1er (Transports) du Budget revisé des dépenses de 1968-1969—$299,888

Total—$1

Le président: Monsieur Robinson.

M. Robinson: Le crédit 3b dit:

> ...la valeur du matériel désuet, inutilisable, perdu ou détruit ..

Comment peut-il être perdu?

M. Cloutier: C'est un magasin, en quelque sorte, qui stocke toutes sortes de pièces utiles pour les différents services du ministère des Transports. Dans la mesure où il existe des disparités entre l'inventaire et le matériel existant réellement, ce sont des pertes. Elles ont pu être égarées en route lors d'un déplacement quelconque ou que ce soit des erreurs de calculs ou de comptabilité. Il a pu y avoir vol.

M. Robinson: Quel genre de matériel serait ainsi perdu? Autrement dit, est-ce que c'est du matériel qui tente les gens?

M. Cloutier: Non. Ce sont des pièces d'avions, de véhicules, ou de navires. Il est aussi question de machines fixes. C'est un stock très vaste qui, en novembre, était de l'ordre de $10,450,000.

M. Robinson: Qu'est-ce qu'on entend par le terme «détruit»?

M. Cloutier: Il pourrait être détruit pendant l'installation, par exemple, ou au cours de la manipulation.

M. Robinson: Est-ce que vous avez une ventilation de ces $300,000 entre le matériel désuet, inutilisable ou détruit?

M. Cloutier: Non, je n'ai pas cette ventilation ici.

Le président: Avez-vous d'autres questions à poser?

Le crédit 3b est adopté.

Chemins de fer et navires à vapeur

Crédit 15b—Paiements à la Compagnie des chemins de fer nationaux du Canada (ci-après dénommée la Compagnie), sur demandes approuvées par le ministre des

[*Texte*]

made by the Company to the Minister of Finance, to be applied by the Company in payment of the deficits certified by the Auditors of the Company, arising in the operations in the calendar year 1968 in respect of the following:

(i) Canadian National Railways System (subject to recovery therefrom of accountable advances made to the Company from the Consolidated Revenue Fund),

(ii) Ferry Services:

Newfoundland Ferry Terminals

Prince Edward Island Ferry and Terminals Yarmouth, N.S.-Bar Harbour, Maine, U.S.A.—$12,504,000

Canadian National Railways System deficit, 1968—$10,000,000

Newfoundland Ferry and Terminals—deficit, 1968—$2,936,000

Yarmouth, N.S.-Bar Harbour, Maine, U.S.A. ferry service, deficit, 1968—$125,000

Total—$13,061,000

Less: Funds available in the Revised Estimates 1968-69—$557,000

Total—$12,504,000

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): Mr. Chairman I take it this is the annual recouping of the losses of the various ferry services and public services operated by the CNR.

Mr. Cloutier: That is right, sir.

Mr. Robinson: What was budgeted for this kind of loss?

Mr. Cloutier: The loss budgeted for the CNR was $20 million. The amount that appeared in the main estimates for 1968-69 for losses for that year is now estimated at $30 million; thereby the need for the $10 million.

Mr. Gillespie: What were the losses for the previous year?

Mr. Cloutier: For 1967-68?

Mr. Gillespie: Yes?

Mr. Cloutier: The 1968-69 estimates indicate an estimated loss in 1967-68 of $23 million.

Mr. Gillespie: Where do I find that, Mr. Cloutier?

[*Interprétation*]

Transports et présentées au ministre des Finances par la Compagnie, de sommes à affecter par la Compagnie aux déficits d'exploitation (certifiés par les vérificateurs de la Compagnie) pour l'année civile 1968 à l'égard des services suivants:

(i) réseau des chemins de fer Nationaux du Canada (recouvrement pouvant être fait des avances comptables accordées à la Compagnie sur le Fonds du revenu consolidé);

(ii) Services de bac;

Service de bac de Terre-Neuve et ports terminus;

Service de bac et de ports terminus de l'île du Prince-Édouard et entre Yarmouth (N.-É.) et Bar Harbour (Maine, É.-U.)—$12,504,000

Réseau des chemins de fer Nationaux du Canada—déficit de 1968—$10,000,000

Service de bac de Terre-Neuve et ports terminus—déficit de 1968—$2,936,000

Service de bac entre Yarmouth (N.-É.) et Bar Harbour (Maine, É.-U.)—déficit de 1968—$125,000

Total—$13,061,000

Moins: Sommes disponibles dans le Budget revisé des dépenses de 1968-1969—$557,000

Total—$12,504,000

M. Lambert (Edmonton-Ouest): Je suppose, monsieur le président, que c'est le recouvrement annuel des déficits d'exploitation des différents services publics et de bacs qui relèvent de la Compagnie des chemins de fer nationaux.

M. Cloutier: C'est exact, monsieur.

M. Robinson: Qu'avait-on inscrit au budget pour cela?

M. Cloutier: Le déficit prévu au budget pour le National-Canadien était de 20,000,000 de dollars. Le montant qui figure maintenant dans les estimés de 1968-1969 est de 30,000,000 de dollars, d'où le besoin de ces 10,000,000 de dollars.

M. Gillespie: Quel a été le déficit de l'année précédente.

M. Cloutier: 1967-68?

M. Gillespie: Oui.

M. Cloutier: Les prévisions pour 1968-69 montrent un déficit approximatif de 23 millions pour 1967-68.

M. Gillespie: Où puis-je trouver ceci, monsieur Cloutier?

[*Text*]

Mr. Cloutier: You will find it at page 517 of the 1968-69 Revised Estimates. You will see there that the amount included in the original estimates for 1967-68 was $15 million, and in the middle of the page, where we show the detail of expenditure, you will see the losses for 1965-66 at $33,415,000, for 1966-67 at $24,593,217 and the estimated loss for 1967-68 at $23 million.

Mr. Gillespie: We are now amending for another $12 million?

Mr. Cloutier: For 1968-69, at $30 million.

Mr. Gillespie: At $32 million; is that right?

Mr. Cloutier: No. The CNR loss itself is $30 million. There are other items in the Vote.

Mr. Gillespie: I see.

• 1055

The Chairman: Mr. Cloutier, is the amount that we are given there on top of what was provided for in the National Transportation Act?

Mr. Cloutier: Yes, sir.

The Chairman: It is on top of it?

Mr. Cloutier: Yes, sir.

Mr. McCutcheon: It is 30 per cent more.

The Chairman: There are regulations in the National Transportation Act to provide for whatever the increase is until 1980, or something like that. That has nothing to do with this present year?

Mr. Cloutier: This is quite apart.

The Chairman: That is apart, and is on top of it. Therefore, if we give $20 million to the National Transportation Act and this year we give another $20 million that is $40 million to the CNR.

Mr. Gillespie: Has there been a tendency to underestimate the losses or the deficit of the CNR each year? I also notice on page 517 that the estimated loss for 1967-68 is shown as $15 million in the right hand column, yet in the body of the text the estimate is shown as $23 million. Is this a mere accident, or has this been the pattern?

The Chairman: Shall Item 15b carry?

Mr. McCutcheon: I do not want to hold up the proceedings at all, but there is one item here, Newfoundland Ferry and Terminals Deficit that interests me. In 1967-68 it was estimated at $15,269 and it actually worked out to $15,626. In the case of the next item,

[*Interpretation*]

M. Cloutier: Vous le trouvez à la page 517 des prévisions révisées, de 1968-69. Vous verrez-là, que le montant figurant dans les prévisions originales de 1967-68 était de 15 millions, ensuite, vous avez au centre de la page, le détail des dépenses, le déficit de 1965-66 est de $33,415,000; celui de 1966-67 de $24,593,247 et nous estimons celui de 1967-68 à 23 millions de dollars.

M. Gillespie: Et nous l'amendons de 12 millions.

M. Cloutier: Pour 1968-69, 30 millions.

M. Gillespie: 32 millions?

M. Cloutier: Non, 30 millions de dollars, il y a d'autres postes dans ce crédit.

M. Gillespie: Je vois.

Le président: Monsieur Cloutier, le montant indiqué est-il en plus de ce qui avait été prévu dans la Loi nationale sur les transports?

M. Cloutier: Oui, monsieur.

Le président: C'est en plus?

M. Cloutier: Oui, monsieur.

M. McCutcheon: C'est 30 p. 100 de plus.

Le président: Il y a des règlements dans la Loi nationale sur les transports prévoyant de combler tout déficit jusqu'en 1980, ou quelque chose comme cela. Cela n'a rien à voir avec la présente année.

M. Cloutier: C'est assez différent.

Le président: C'est différent et c'est en plus. Donc, si nous versons 20 millions en vertu de la Loi, et de nouveau 20 millions, c'est 40 millions au Canadien National.

M. Gillespie: Est-ce qu'on a eu tendance à sous-estimer systématiquement, le déficit d'exploitation du Canadien National. Je vois à la page 517 que le déficit pour 1967-68 est de 15 millions, à la colonne de droite, mais que dans le corps du texte, il est de 23 millions de dollars. Est-ce que c'est un simple accident ou est-ce normal?

Le président: Adoptons-nous le crédit 156?

M. McCutcheon: Je ne veux pas retarder l'adoption des crédits, mais il y a un point qui m'intéresse, ce sont les déficits d'exploitation du Service de bac de Terre-Neuve et des ports terminus. En 1967-68 il était de $15,269, il est maintenant de $15,626. Au poste sui-

[*Texte*]

the Prince Edward Island ferry, it works out even better than what appeared in the original estimates. How is it that the Newfoundland one cost more money and the Prince Edward Island one obviously did better than was expected?

Mr. Cloutier: The additional requirement on the ferry terminals is a reflection of rising wage rates, partially offset—and partially only—by a larger volume of freight-handling than was expected. On the other hand, the scale of fees for the service is in accordance with the Terms of Confederation entered into with Newfoundland; so that although you are here handling a larger amount of freight, the adjustment of the charges is . . .

Mr. McCutcheon: I see.

Item 15b agreed to.

On Item 20b:

TRANSPORT

Railways and Steamships

Construction or Acquisition of Buildings, Works and Land, Dock and Terminal Facilities, including improvements to terminal Facilities owned by Newfoundland, and of Vessels and Related Equipment as listed in the Details of the Estimates provide that Treasury Board may increase or decrease the amounts within the Vote to be expended on individually listed projects —To authorize the transfer of $750,000 from Transport Vote 10, Appropriation Act No. 4, 1968 for the purposes of this Vote and to provide a further amount of—$1,000,000

Prince Edward Island Car Ferry and Terminals—Construction or Acquisition of Buildings, Works, Land and Equipment

Construction or Acquisition of Buildings, Works and Land—$1,000,000

Construction or Acquisition of Equipment —$750,000

Total—$1,750,000

Less: Funds available in Transport Vote 10 of the Revised Estimates 1968-69—$750,000

Total—$1,000,000

The Chairman: Can we have an explanation, Mr. Cloutier?

[*Interprétation*]

vant, le bac de l'Île du Prince-Édouard, les chiffres sont meilleurs que ne l'avait prévus l'estimé. Comment se fait-il que celui de Terre-Neuve coûte davantage et que celui du Prince-Édouard qui a eu de meilleurs résultats que prévu.

M. Cloutier: Les crédits supplémentaires nécessaires pour les ports terminus, sont le reflet de l'accroissement des salaires, partiellement compensé, mais partiellement seulement, par une augmentation plus forte que prévue de la quantité de marchandises transportées. Par ailleurs, les prix sont en conformité avec les termes de la Confédération, donc, bien que la quantité de marchandises augmente, l'ajustement des charges d'exploitation . . .

M. McCutcheon: Je vois.

Le crédit 15b est adopté.

Crédit 20b: Transports Chemins de fer et navires à vapeur—Construction ou acquisition de bâtiments, ouvrages et terrains, de quais et de terminus, y compris des améliorations aux terminus appartenant à Terre-Neuve, et de navires et de matériel connexes, selon le détail des affectations; toutefois, le Conseil du trésor peut modifier la répartition des montants de crédit affectés aux divers postes énumérés—Autorisation du transfert de $750,000 du crédit 10 (Transports), Loi n° 4 de 1968 portant affectation de crédits, aux fins du présent crédit et affectation d'un montant supplémentaire de—$1,000,000

Service de bac de l'Île du Prince-Édouard et ports terminus—construction ou acquisition de bâtiments, d'ouvrages, de terrains et de matériel

Construction ou acquisition de bâtiments, d'ouvrages et de terrains—$1,000,000

Construction ou acquisition de matériel—$750,000

Total—$1,750,000

Moins: Sommes disponibles dans le crédit 10 (Transports) du Budget revisé des dépenses de 1968-1969—$750,000

Total—$1,000,000

Le président: Monsieur Cloutier, pourrions-nous avoir des explications?

[*Text*]

Mr. Cloutier: Yes, sir. The details show that the gross requirement is $1,750,000. That is made up of two items. The $750,000 item relates to construction costs for the vessel *John Hamilton Gray,* the increases being provided for in escalation clauses and then contracted. This is cleaning up the contract on the *John Hamilton Gray,* and the work is now completed.

The $1 million related to ferry terminals being constructed and altered or added to, to provide better parking and ticketing facilities at Borden, P.E.I. and Cape Tormentine, N.B., so as to permit a faster flow of traffic—to eliminate bottlenecks.

Mr. Robinson: Mr. Chairman, Item 20b refers to construction or Acquisition, and so on. How much of this million dollars is for construction and how much for acquisition?

• 1100

The Chairman: You want a breakdown?

Mr. Robinson: The point is that it is $1 million, and it indicates that these facilities that would be required are presently owned by Newfoundland.

Mr. Cloutier: No; under Item 20b we are on the Prince Edward Island car ferry terminals. This is the ferry service from P.E.I. to the mainland. What is being done here are improvements to the parking lots leading to the ferry terminals and new construction and alterations to existing structures at the ferry terminals. Most of it would be construction. On the other hand, probably some parts of the ticketing facilities are being acquired instead of being constructed, but the majority of it is straight construction, sir.

The Chairman: Shall Item 20b carry?

Mr. Peddle: No. Item 20b states:

> ...including improvements to Terminal Facilities owned by Newfoundland,...

Just what is meant by that?

Mr. Cloutier: This is the general vote wording. If you go to the main estimates of Item 20b at page 517 you will see there a number of separate items that have nothing to do with P.E.I.

Indeed, at the bottom of page 517 you will see the first one, "Newfoundland Coastal Services". This is not the item that the supplementary estimate is for. If you go to the top of page 519 you will recognize the same wording there, "Prince Edward Island Car

[*Interpretation*]

M. Cloutier: Oui monsieur. Les détails montrent que les exigences brutes sont de $1,750,-000 répartis en deux postes. Le crédit de $750,000 se rapporte aux frais de construction du bateau *John Hamilton Gray* et les accroissements sont prévus aux clauses d'augmentation et ensuite, mis en adjudication. Cela termine le contrat du *John Hamilton Gray* et les travaux sont terminés. Le montant de $1,000,-000 se rapporte à différents terminus aménagés notamment pour prévoir des places de stationnement et un guichet de billets à Borden (Î. P.-É.) et à Cape Tormentine (N.-B.), afin de permettre un écoulement beaucoup plus rapide de la circulation et éviter les embouteillages.

M. Robinson: Le crédit 20b se rapporte à des constructions ou acquisitions, et autres. Je me demande quelle partie de ce million est pour la construction et quelle partie est pour l'acquisition?

Le président: Vous voulez le détail?

M. Robinson: Il s'agit d'un million de dollars et cela indique que les aménagements achetés appartiennent actuellement à Terre-Neuve.

M. Cloutier: Non, le crédit 20b, s'applique aux terminus du bac de l'île du Prince-Édouard au continent. On aménage les parcs de stationnement aux terminus, on construit de nouvelles structures ou on aménage celles qui existent, l'essentiel sera de la construction. En ce qui concerne les guichets, certaines parties sont achetées plutôt que construites, mais néanmoins, l'essentiel est de la construction.

Le président: Le crédit 20b est-il adopté?

M. Peddle: Non. Le crédit 20 précise:

> ...y compris des améliorations aux terminus appartenant à Terre-Neuve,...

Qu'entendez-vous par là exactement?

M. Cloutier: C'est le libellé général du crédit. Si vous vous reportez aux estimés principaux du crédit 20b, à la page 517, vous verrez qu'il y a plusieurs postes séparés qui n'ont rien à voir avec l'île du Prince-Édouard.

En fait, en bas de la page 517, vous verrez le premier «Service côtier de Terre-Neuve». Ce n'est pas à cela que le crédit supplémentaire s'applique. Maintenant, si vous passez en haut de la page 519, vous retrouverez les mêmes mots, «Bacs et ports terminus de l'Î-

[*Texte*]

Ferry and Terminals—Construction or Acquisition of Buildings, Works, Land and Equipment". The original provision in the 1968-69 estimates for the Prince Edward Island ferries was $91,000 and now there is going to be $1 million spent, and this is the item here.

Mr. Peddle: No, I am not talking about P.E.I. I want an explanation of what "including improvements to Terminal Facilities owned by Newfoundland" is in there for, without talking about P.E.I., please.

Mr. Cloutier: Oh, I am sorry. I thought you were relating to vote 20b; you are really referring to vote 20.

Mr. Peddle: I am reading from Vote 20b: "including improvements to Terminal Facilities owned by Newfoundland".

Mr. Cloutier: What I am explaining, sir, is that if you will go to page 517 of the 1968-69 Estimates...

Mr. Peddle: Mr. Chairman, perhaps I could just have an explanation of the terminology "owned by Newfoundland". Are we referring to CNR properties?

The Chairman: I think what you want to know, Mr. Peddle, is whether we are doing work for Newfoundland without any refund. Is that what you are driving at?

Mr. Peddle: No, what I am driving at is that I think this is rather unusual terminology: Terminal facilities owned by Newfoundland.

The Chairman: Yes.

Mr. Peddle: Now, what I want to know is whether these are actually facilities owned by the Canadian National Railways.

The Chairman: Or Newfoundland itself?

Mr. Cloutier: No, if the Item's wording specifies "owned by Newfoundland" this, I would say, relates to facilities that are owned by Newfoundland and not by CNR.

Mr. Peddle: What sort of facilities?

Mr. Cloutier: I cannot tell you, sir. I am sorry but I do not have the information. I came as prepared as I could on the Item in the supplementary estimates, not on the other.

The Chairman: That would be the harbour?

Mr. Cloutier: I would guess—and I want to emphasize that this is only a guess—that it

[*Interprétation*]

le-du-Prince Édouard. Construction ou acquisition de bâtiments, ouvrages, terrains et équipement.» Les prévisions originales de 1968-69 donnaient $91,000 pour les bacs de l'Île du Prince-Édouard, mais maintenant ceci va se chiffrer à $1 million, et c'est le poste qui nous occupe.

M. Peddle: Non, je ne parle pas de l'Île-du-Prince-Édouard. Je voudrais que vous m'expliquiez pourquoi on parle ici des «améliorations aux installations portuaires appartenant à «Terre-Neuve», sans mentionner l'Île-du-Prince-Édouard.

M. Cloutier: Excusez-moi. Je pensais que vous parliez du crédit 20b. Il s'agit du crédit 20?

M. Peddle: Non, du crédit 20b: «y compris les améliorations aux installations portuaires appartenant à Terre-Neuve».

M. Cloutier: Si vous vous reportez à la page 517 du budget de 1968-1969...

M. Peddle: Monsieur le président, je voudrais qu'on m'explique cet «appartenant à Terre-Neuve»; s'agit-il des propriétés du C.N.?

Le président: En somme, vous voulez savoir si nous faisons des travaux pour Terre-Neuve, sans obtenir de remboursement. Est-ce là que vous voulez en venir?

M. Peddle: Non, je veux dire que nous avons là des termes assez peu conventionnels: «les installations portuaires appartenant à Terre-Neuve.»

Le président: Oui.

M. Peddle: Je voudrais savoir si ces installations appartiennent au Canadien National?

Le président: Ou à Terre-Neuve?

M. Cloutier: S'il est indiqué que ces installations appartiennent à Terre-Neuve, ces installations doivent appartenir à Terre-Neuve et non au Canadien National.

M. Peddle: Quel genre d'installations?

M. Cloutier: Je ne sais vraiment pas, je regrette. J'ai autant de renseignements que possible sur le budget supplémentaire, mais non sur les autres questions.

Le président: S'agirait-il du port?

M. Cloutier: C'est peut-être un terminus de bac qui existait à Terre-Neuve avant la Con-

[*Text*]

could be a ferry terminal that existed in Newfoundland before Confederation which the Province of Newfoundland continued to own, but the ferry service which was taken over by the CNR continued to dock at that facility. I want again to repeat, however, that this is just a guess on my part; I really do not know.

The Chairman: Does that reply to your question, Mr. Peddle?

• 1105

Mr. Peddle: Yes.

Item 20b agreed to.

The Chairman: Item 40b, Air Services, is at page 21.

Air Services

Vote 40b—Grants, contributions, subsidies and other payments as detailed in the Estimates—To authorize the transfer of $369,700 from Transport Vote 35, Appropriation Act No. 4, 1968, for the purposes of this Vote—$1

Contributions, in accordance with terms and conditions approved by the government in council to assist in the establishment or improvement of local airports and related facilities—$450,000

Less: Funds available in Transport Vote 35 ($369,700) and within this Vote ($80,299) of the Revised Estimates 1968-69—$449,999

Total—$1

Total, A—Department—$13,504,002

The Chairman: Does that have anything to do with Air Canada, Mr. Cloutier?

Mr. Cloutier: No, sir. This is not a payment to Air Canada.

Mr. Penner: Does this figure of $450,000 represent about half of the money spent for small airport construction right across the country?

Mr. Cloutier: No; let me go back a little bit in history. I think this program of assistance to small airports dates back three years. The program was authorized at a level of $1 million a year. Now, the start of any new program is slow; the municipalities and the provinces put forward proposals, they are examined and when they are approved the construction is phased in, so that over the first few years of this program not all of the $1 million that was provided for was spent

[*Interpretation*]

fédération et la province de Terre-Neuve continue d'être propriétaire de cette installation, mais le service de bac repris par le Canadien National dessert toujours ce terminus, mais je n'en suis pas absolument certain.

Le président: Est-ce que ceci répond à votre question, monsieur Peddle?

M. Peddle: Oui.

Le crédit 20b est adopté.

Le président: Passons au crédit 40b; c'est à la page 21.

Services de l'Air

Crédit 40b—Allocations, contributions, subventions et autres paiements, selon le détail des affectations—Autorisation du transfert de $369,700 du crédit 35 (Transports), Loi n° 4 de 1968 portant affectation de crédits, aux fins du présent crédit—$1

Contributions, conformément aux modalités et conditions approuvées par le gouverneur en conseil, pour aider à l'établissement ou à l'amélioration des aéroports locaux et des installations connexes—$450,000

Moins: Sommes disponibles dans le crédit 35 (Transports) ($369,700) et dans le même crédit ($80,299) du Budget revisé des dépenses de 1968-1969—$449,999

Total—$1

Total: A—Ministère—$13,504,002

Le président: Est-ce que ceci est relatif à Air Canada?

M. Cloutier: Non, monsieur, ce n'est pas un versement à Air Canada.

M. Penner: Ce montant de $450,000, représente à peu près la moitié de l'argent dépensé pour la construction d'un petit aéroport à travers le pays?

M. Cloutier: Non. Revenons un peu en arrière. Le programme d'aide aux petits aéroports locaux date d'il y a trois ans et le programme a été autorisé pour un montant de $1 million par an. Maintenant, les nouveaux programmes de construction démarrent lentement, les municipalités et les provinces font des propositions et si ces propositions sont acceptées, les programmes de construction sont alors mis en chantier. Ainsi, pendant les premières années du programme, la somme

[*Texte*]

and commitments were entered into for the future.

This $450,000 represents the accumulation of these works that have been completed which, first of all, were accepted under this program, were completed, and claims have come in.

Mr. Penner: Then all the moneys that have been allotted for this particular program have not yet been allocated; is that correct?

Mr. Cloutier: In the first year, for instance, the Department received an appropriation of $1 million but it did not spend it all. It spent only, say, $700,000 but it had approved applications up to $1 million and this is cleaning up the accumulation.

Mr. Penner: There is one situation that I am aware of which seems to me to be a very bad bit of economy. There is one thriving small community in Northwestern Ontario which had a program approved for approximately $100,000. I am referring to a packed gravel strip in the Town of Dryden, Ontario. This community was to be serviced by Transair Limited, and at the time the application was submitted the community was to be served by DC-3s.

Now, since that time, DC-3s by Transair are being phased out and they are going into turbo-prop aircraft—the YS-11 to be specific—manufactured by the Japanese. In order for the YS-11s to use the Dryden air strip an additional 800 feet are required. At the present time the contractor is on site and he is prepared to do the job of providing an additional 800 feet at a cost of approximately $15,000, and yet the airport commission in that town has been refused this allocation of funds. The answer has been that the YS-11 can, in fact, use the air strip provided it has not a full capacity load.

Now, this seems to me to be a pretty ridiculous kind of economic thinking. The fact is that Transair, in order to make it economical, has got to have a full load of freight and passengers if they can possibly get it. If the contractor leaves and has to be called back at some later date, the cost have been estimated to be an additional 50 per cent which is something over $30,000 and more likely by that time it will be $50,000. I am just trying to determine on behalf of the airport committee of this town just exactly what kind of economic thinking goes on in the Treasury Board.

I am faced with these people and they want a pretty logical kind of explanation. I am at a loss to give it.

[*Interprétation*]

totale de $1 million prévue n'a pas été entièrement dépensée. Ce montant de $450,000 représente l'ensemble des travaux terminés qui ont été approuvés, acceptés.

M. Penner: Donc, les sommes affectées à ce programme n'ont pas encore été complètement distribuées.

M. Cloutier: Oui, mais voyez-vous, la première année, par exemple, le ministère a reçu une subvention de $1 million, mais il n'a pas tout dépensé. Il a dépensé, disons, $700,000, sur des montants autorisés de $1,000,000. Ce crédit permet ainsi d'éliminer l'accumulation de fonds.

M. Penner: Mais il me semble que ceci n'est pas très satisfaisant. Il y a une petite municipalité dans le nord-ouest de l'Ontario dont le programme a été approuvé, programme de $100 mille pour une piste en gravier comprimé à Dryden. C'est une piste que la Compagnie Trans-Air devait desservir, et lorsque la demande a été faite, des DC 3 devaient atterrir à l'endroit, mais depuis ce moment-là, la Trans-Air utilise des YS 11, un avion japonais à turbo-propulseurs au lieu des DC 3, maintenant il faut 800 pieds de plus de piste pour recevoir ces avions. Le contracteur est là, il est prêt à faire ses travaux au coût d'environ $15,000, mais la Commission de l'aéroport de l'endroit s'est vue refuser cette somme. On leur a répondu que le YS 11 pouvait utiliser cette piste à condition de ne pas être à pleine charge.

Il me semble que c'est assez ridicule. En fait, Trans-Air, pour être rentable, doit prendre un chargement complet de passagers ou de messageries si la compagnie en est capable. Si le contracteur est obligé de quitter les lieux et si on doit le rappeler plus tard, le coût sera augmenté de 50 p. 100 et passera sans doute à $50,000, donc, la Commission de l'aéroport de l'endroit, doit se demander comment le Conseil du trésor conçoit ces choses.

J'ai affaire avec ces personnes, et elles me demandent une explication logique que je ne peux pas leur donner.

[*Text*]

Mr. Cloutier: I am sorry that I am not aware of any of the details relating to the Dryden case that you put forward. I am not even aware that the case has come to the Treasury Board from the Department.

Mr. Penner: I see.

Mr. Cloutier: It may very well be a situation where the Department has to assess—and I want to emphasize that it *may* very well be—the priority that should be given to these various claims it has in terms of the requirement of the area in relation to the requirements elsewhere because, as I have indicated, the program has operated under a monetary ceiling of $1 million and it is simply not possible to do everything at one time that seems worth doing.

• 1110

Mr. Penner: I can appreciate that, sir, but it seems to me that it is going to be a rather silly situation to have $100,000 invested in a packed gravel air strip to which there is no aircraft service or, if aircraft can service this area they can only service it at half load. It just seems to me to be a situation that is not particularly beneficial to the people's attitude towards government and towards the way in which funds are allotted for projects that are absolutely vital to this part of the country.

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): I think I can help. I will suggest that he go back to the Department of Transport and Treasury Board with the example of the Edmonton International Airport in 1958 when the best brains in the Department of Transport had determined that the runways should only be 8,600 feet.

They were then introducing the Vanguard aircraft and Mr. McGregor of Air Canada, before the special committee that was sitting on those estimates at the time, said that they required 9,600 feet. The Department was insisting that 8,600 feet was sufficeint, but as soon as they saw Mr. McGregor's testimony, naturally they then came along with a proposal to increase them to 11,200, which is what they did.

They had the contractor on site and he was prepared to do the work actually at a lesser rate than the original contract because he had no moving on expenses. This is what you are trying to say. I think it is being penny wise and pound foolish. I am sure they can go into the commitments. It is obvious that what is proposed is just sheer nonsense.

The Chairman: Anyway, your question, Mr. Penner, may be addressed to the Department itself.

[*Interpretation*]

M. Cloutier: Je ne suis pas au courant des détails pour le cas dont vous me parlez. Je ne sais même pas que ce cas avait été soumis au Conseil du trésor par le ministère.

M. Penner: Je vois.

M. Cloutier: Il se peut que le ministère doive évaluer la priorité à attacher aux demandes qu'il reçoit selon les besoins des divers endroits.

Comme je vous l'ai dit, le programme a un montant maximum d'un million de dollars à sa disposition et il n'a pas été possible de tout faire en même temps.

M. Penner: Oui, bien sûr, mais il me semble que ce sera un petit peu ridicule que l'on alloue $100,000 pour aménager une piste où il n'y a pas de service aérien et de ne rien faire dans le cas d'une piste où des avions qui n'ont qu'un demi-chargement peuvent se poser. Il me semble que ce n'est pas très logique et qu'une telle façon de faire joue au détriment de l'idée que les gens se font du gouvernement.

M. Lambert (Edmonton-Ouest): Il faudrait que vous vous adressiez au ministère des Transports et au Conseil du Trésor en rappelant l'exemple de l'aéroport international d'Edmonton, en 1958, à ce moment-là, les grands esprits du ministère des Transports avaient jugé que la piste ne devait avoir que 8600 pieds. Les Vanguard commençaient à desservir l'aéroport à ce moment-là. M. McGregor, d'Air Canada, avait alors réclamé une piste de 9600 pieds devant le Comité spécial. Le ministère a affirmé qu'une piste de 8600 pieds était suffisante. Mais quand ils ont pris connaissance du témoignage de M. McGregor ils ont alors proposé de porter la longueur à 11,200. Le contracteur était prêt à faire le travail, à un taux inférieur à la somme prévue au départ, car il n'avait pas de frais de déplacement. C'est le même cas pour vous. C'est une économie de bouts de ficelle. Je suis sûr qu'ils peuvent procéder, leurs arguments sont absolument ridicules.

Le président: De toute façon, M. Penner, vous pourriez poser votre question directement au ministre.

[*Texte*]

Mr. Penner: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

The Chairman: Or you could do that on Orders of the Day.

Shall Item 40b carry?

Mr. McCutcheon: Could I have one word of explanation. We have payments to Iceland and to Denmark of about $338,000 on page 534 of our Revised Estimates. What is involved here?

Mr. Cloutier: I am afraid, sir, that I simply do not know.

Mr. McCutcheon: I would not expect you to bring that information, but I was just curious. How come we would be making grants like that to those two places if it has to do with landing rights and that type of thing? I should think that we would normally have a tremendous list all over the world for this type of thing.

Mr. Cloutier: I am sorry, sir, I cannot help you at all.

Mr. McCutcheon: I will try to get the information some way. Mr. Chairman, I am not going to hold this up.

Mr. Cloutier: I am sure the Department will provide it very quickly.

Mr. McCutcheon: Yes.

Mr. Cloutier: There is probably a very good, logical and easy answer, but I do not have it.

Mr. McCutcheon: That is fine.

Item 40b agreed to.

C—Canadian Transport Commission

57b.—Notwithstanding any limitation that may be contained in section 265 of the Railway Act, to authorize subject to an Order of the Commission (a) the payment of an amount not to exceed $1,600,000 from the Railway Grade Crossing Fund toward the elimination of the level crossing at Montée des Sources, between Dorval and Pointe-Claire and (b) the payment of an amount not to exceed $1,600,000 from the Railway Grade Crossing Fund toward the elimination of the level crossing at St. Charles Road, Dorion—$1

The Chairman: I think that will need an explanation, Mr. Cloutier.

Mr. Cloutier: The Railway Act limits the amount of assistance to be given for any one

[*Interprétation*]

M. Penner: Merci, monsieur le président.

Le président: Ou vous pourriez l'inscrire à l'ordre du jour.

Le crédit 40 b est-il adopté?

M. McCutcheon: Pourrais-je ajouter une explication? Nous avons des versements à effectuer à l'Islande et au Danemark. Ce chiffre est d'environ $338,000.00. C'est à la page 534 du budget revisé. De quoi s'agit-il exactement?

M. Cloutier: Je regrette, je ne sais vraiment pas, monsieur.

M. McCutcheon: Cela ne m'étonne pas parce qu'on ne peut pas s'attendre à ce que vous nous fournissiez ces renseignements. Simple curiosité... Mais je me demande comment ces deux pays devraient recevoir des subventions s'il s'agit de droits d'atterrissage; il me semble que nous aurions énormément de dépenses à travers le monde à cette fin.

M. Cloutier: Vraiment, monsieur, je ne sais pas.

M. McCutcheon: J'essaierai d'obtenir ce renseignement. Je n'insiste pas.

M. Cloutier: Je suis sûr que le ministère vous fournira rapidement les renseignements dont vous avez besoin.

M. McCutcheon: Oui.

M. Cloutier: Il y a probablement une réponse logique et facile, mais je ne la connais pas.

M. McCutcheon: Très bien.

Le crédit 40 b est adopté.

C—Commission Canadienne des Transports

Crédit 57b—Nonobstant toute restriction que peut contenir l'article 265 de la Loi sur les chemins de fer, autorisation, sous réserve d'une ordonnance de la Commission, a) du paiement d'un montant ne devant pas dépasser $1,600,000 provenant de la Caisse des passages à niveau pour l'élimination du passage à niveau à Montée, des Sources, entre Dorval et Pointe-Claire, et b) du paiement d'un montant ne devant pas dépasser $1,600,000 provenant de la Caisse des passages à niveau pour l'élimination du passage à niveau à Montée Saint-Charles, Dorion—$1

Le président: Avez-vous des explications?

M. Cloutier: La Loi sur les chemins de fer limite les subventions versées pour un pas-

[*Text*]

railway crossing to $500,000 which would mean $1 million in the case of the crossings at Dorval and Dorion, since there is a double railway line at each. The situation at these crossings is unique in Canada in that the streets concerned are crossed by two double tracks of main line which parallel a principal highway. Both crossings have had a bad record of accidents and are a continuous potential danger in spite of the best type of automatic protection and the employment of policemen and watchmen during heavy traffic hours.

It is proposed to construct grade separations to eliminate these crossings and a more substantial contribution is required from the Railway Grade Crossing Fund. It is recommended, in view of the unusual circumstances, that contributions to each of these crossings of $1.6 million be approved rather than $1 million.

• 1115

Mr. McCutcheon: Is this the crossing where that terrible school bus accident took place?

The Chairman: Yes, this is it. That should have been eliminated years ago, but we always wait until something very tragic happens and then we carry it out.

Mr. Alkenbrack: I will wait until the next one, Mr. Chairman. They are both in order. I am glad to see this.

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): I might suggest that it still becomes very expensive to do away with something.

The Chairman: Yes, you have a good point there.

Item 57b agreed to.

60b. Railway Grade Crossing Fund—To authorize, notwithstanding section 30 of the Financial Administration Act, the making of commitments totalling $55,967,000 (in addition to any commitments in respect of which amounts are appropriated under this or any other Act) in the current and subsequent fiscal years—$1

Mr. Alkenbrack: Mr. Chairman, could Mr. Cloutier tell us what was the appropriation last year for this item? Perhaps he could go back a couple of years and give us any progression in the amounts?

Mr. Cloutier: Yes, sir, I will try to do that.

Mr. Alkenbrack: I asked the question because I am interested in the increase in this

[*Interpretation*]

sage à niveau à $500,000, ce qui signifie un montant d'un million de dollars dans le cas des passages à niveau de Dorval et de Dorion, puisqu'il y en a deux à chaque endroit. La situation de ces passages à niveau est unique au Canada parce qu'il y a deux voies qui traversent une route principale. Il y a énormément d'accidents à cet endroit, et malgré toute la protection déployée, ces accidents continuent. Il est question d'éliminer ces croisements et une somme considérable doit être puisée à même la Caisse des passages à niveau. En raison des circonstances exceptionnelles, on recommande que des subventions au montant de 1 million 600 mille dollars, pour chacun de ces passages à niveau soient approuvées à cette fin au lieu d'un million de dollars.

M. McCutcheon: Est-ce là que s'est produit l'affreux accident de l'autobus scolaire?

Le président: Oui. On aurait dû faire disparaître ces passages à niveau depuis longtemps. Nous attendons toujours qu'il se passe un drame, et alors, à ce moment-là, nous commençons à bouger.

M. Alkenbrack: C'est en ordre.

M. Lambert (Edmonton-Ouest): Nous attendons aussi jusqu'à ce que cela coûte excessivement cher.

Le président: Vous avez raison. Le crédit 57b est adopté.

Crédit 60b—Caisse des passages à niveau—Autorisation, nonobstant l'article 30 de la Loi sur l'administration financière, de porter à $55,967,000 les engagements (en plus des engagements pour lesquels les crédits sont alloués en vertu de la présente loi ou de toute autre loi) qui peuvent être pris pendant l'année financière courante et les années subséquentes—$1

M. Alkenbrack: Monsieur le président, M. Cloutier pourrait nous dire le montant de l'affectation de l'année dernière à ce poste. Et peut-être nous donner une idée de la courbe de ces montants au cours des dernières années?

M. Cloutier: Je le veux bien.

M. Alkenbrack: Je vous demande cela parce que ce sont les augmentations qui m'in-

[*Texte*]

vote. Economy works the other way when you are protecting dangerous railway crossings.

Mr. Cloutier: The statute setting up the Railway Grade Crossing Fund provides for an annual contribution of $5 million. In recent years this has not been sufficient and an additional item has been added through the estimates to augment the contribution made to the Crossing Fund. The figures that I have before me, sir, indicate that this statutory contribution has been augmented in 1965-66 by $9 million, in 1966-1967 by $10 million, in 1967-1968 by $10 million, and in 1968-1969 by another $10 million.

Mr. Alkenbrack: So the last three years have remained the same?

Mr. Cloutier: That is right, sir.

The Chairman: Are there any more questions?

Mr. Alkenbrack: Did the elimination of crossings remain the same—the number of crossings and so on?

Mr. Cloutier: I have no information on the number of crossings, sir, at the moment.

Mr. Alkenbrack: I submit, Mr. Chairman, that this is an item that ought, if need be, to be increased year by year until all level crossings in Canada have either been eliminated or protected by signals. I am glad to see measures being taken in the previous vote to eliminate the traps at Pointe-Claire, Dorval and Dorion. Every year for the past three years I have risen in the House advocating more safety measures in this regard.

I would like to point out something else to the witness. I do not think that the municipalities should be asked for any funds for the elimination of grade or level crossings. I have brought this argument up in the past and I will not go into it now. I am sure members will agree that in most cases the railway was there before the roads were there. The railways were originally granted franchises that date back prior to Confederation, and I think it is the duty of the federal government through the Canadian Transport Commission to either eliminate all level crossings or else guard them with signals, at no cost to the municipalities. That is why I am interested in seeing an increase in this Fund, if need be, rather than have it stand stationary.

[*Interprétation*]

téressent dans ce crédit. L'économie est beaucoup plus profitable quand on prend les dispositions nécessaires en vue d'éliminer les dangers aux passages à niveau.

M. Cloutier: La loi qui établit la Caisse des passages à niveau prévoit 5 millions de dollars par année. Ce montant n'a pas été suffisant au cours des dernières années et on a ajouté un montant supplémentaire, afin d'augmenter la contribution versée à la Caisse des passages à niveau. D'après les renseignements obtenus, cette contribution a été accrue en 1965-1966 de 9 millions de dollars; en 1966-1967, de 10 millions de dollars; et en 1967-1968, de 10 millions de dollars; et en 1968-1969, d'un autre 10 millions de dollars.

M. Alkenbrack: Donc, au cours des trois dernières années, l'augmentation est restée la même.

M. Cloutier: C'est exact.

Le président: D'autres questions, s'il vous plaît?

M. Alkenbrack: La suppression des passages à niveau est-elle toujours au même point? Avez-vous des chiffres à ce sujet?

M. Cloutier: Non, je ne crois pas.

M. Alkenbrack: Monsieur le président, je pense qu'il s'agit d'un crédit qui doit être augmenté jusqu'à ce qu'on supprime tous les passages à niveau au Canada ou qu'on les protège par des signaux. Je suis heureux qu'on ait pris des mesures à ce sujet dans le crédit précédent pour éliminer le danger, par exemple, à Dorval, à Pointe-Claire et à Dorion. Tous les ans, depuis trois ans, à la Chambre, j'ai demandé qu'on prenne des mesures de sécurité à ce sujet.

Et je voudrais, en outre, signaler au témoin, que je ne crois pas que les municipalités devraient être appelées à verser des fonds en vue de supprimer ces passages à niveau. J'ai soulevé cette question auparavant et je le fais de nouveau, et je pense que tout le monde reconnaîtra que les chemins de fer existaient avant que les routes soient construites. Les chemins de fer ont obtenu des droits depuis longtemps, même avant la Confédération. Et je crois que le gouvernement fédéral a le devoir par l'entremise de la Commission canadienne des transports d'éliminer tous les passages à niveau, ou d'installer des signaux, sans aucuns frais de la part des municipalités. C'est pourquoi je désire voir ce crédit accru, si c'est nécessaire.

[*Text*]

Item 60b agreed to.

65b.—Steamship Subventions for Coastal Services as detailed in the Estimates—To authorize the transfer of $94,942 from Transport Vote 50 and $1,146,853 from Transport Vote 55, for the purposes of this Vote—$1

• 1120

The Chairman: Are there any questions, gentlemen?

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton-West): There is already $11 million provided for this year in Item 65. I take it that we are being asked to transfer about $1.24 million to augment Vote 65 in the 1968-69 estimates. Can you tell us whether these subventions for these services are pretty well open-ended and for an unlimited period.

Mr. Cloutier: This is one particular area that the Canadian Transport Commission is examining very carefully in an endeavour to bring these services closer to a break-even point. The difficulty is that wage settlements arrived at in the course of the year through the collective bargaining relationship has pushed up the amounts of the deficits. This has been in practically every case the reason for the addition.

The Chairman: Shall Item 65b carry?

Mr. McCutcheon: Mr. Chairman, Item 65b covers quite a bit. There is more down on the next page, I have noticed.

The Chairman: Yes, it does.

Mr. McCutcheon: I think my colleague here has a question to ask.

The Chairman: All right.

Mr. Peddle: My question, Mr. Chairman, is on the reference to financial assistance. Is this to the Canadian National Railways who operate the coastal service?

Mr. Cloutier: Yes, sir.

Mr. Peddle: Why is that referred to as financial assistance? Is there any significance in that?

Mr. Cloutier: Not that I am aware of.

Mr. Peddle: Rather than a grant, or is it not actually part of the over-all deficit of the company's operations?

Mr. Cloutier: It is the deficit relating to that operation only.

[*Interpretation*]

Le crédit 60b est adopté.

Crédit 65b—Subventions pour services de cabotage par les navires à vapeur, selon le détail des affectations—Autorisation du transfert de $94,942 du crédit 50 (Transports) et de $1,146,853 du crédit 55 (Transports) aux fins du présent crédit—$1

Le président: Y aurait-il des questions?

M. Lambert (Edmonton-Ouest): Le crédit 65 prévoit déjà 11 millions de dollars pour cette année. On nous demande de transférer environ 1,240,000 dollars pour accroître le crédit 65 dans les prévisions budgétaires de 1968-1969. Nous aimerions savoir si les subventions destinées à ces services sont sans restrictions et pour une période déterminée.

M. Cloutier: C'est un secteur où la Commission canadienne des transports étudie attentivement les problèmes de manière à ce que les services soient plus rentables et qu'ils puissent permettre de boucler le budget. Une difficulté se présente: les augmentations de salaires accordées au cours de l'année par suite des négociations collectives ont eu pour résultat d'accroître les déficits. Dans la plupart des cas, ceci a été la raison de l'augmentation.

Le président: Le crédit 65b est-il adopté?

M. McCutcheon: Monsieur le président, 65b continue, je pense, à la page suivante.

Le président: Oui, il continue.

M. McCutcheon: Je crois que mon collègue a une question à poser.

Le président: Très bien.

M. Peddle: La question, monsieur le président, que je veux poser se rapporte à l'aide financière. S'agit-il du Canadien National qui exploite ces services côtiers?

M. Cloutier: Oui, monsieur.

M. Peddle: Pourquoi appele-t-on ça de l'aide financière? S'agit-il d'une signification spéciale?

M. Cloutier: Pas que je sache.

M. Peddle: Pourquoi n'est-ce pas une subvention ou ceci fait-il partie du déficit d'exploitation?

M. Cloutier: C'est le déficit relatif à cette seule exploitation.

[*Texte*]

Mr. Peddle: I see. It strikes me as odd that this kind would be applied to this particular thing. Throughout the book we have such things as grants and so on, but this one is specified as financial assistance.

Mr. Cloutier: The word that would take precedence is in the Vote wording itself, and this is "Subventions", which is the same thing as a grant. I do not have a good answer, and there probably is not a good answer why the words "financial assistance" are used.

Mr. Peddle: I was just wondering if it would be deliberate in order to call attention to the fact that it is a rather large amount.

Mr. Cloutier: Not for my part.

Item 65b agreed to.

D—National Harbours Board

Vote 75b—Payment to the National Harbours Board to be applied in payment of the balance of the deficit incurred in respect of the calendar year 1967 and the deficit expected to be incurred in the calendar year 1968 (exclusive of interest on advances authorized by Parliament and depreciation on capital structures) in the operation of the Jacques Cartier Bridge, Montreal Harbour—To authorize the transfer of $51,099 from Transport Vote 80, Appropriation Act No. 4, 1968 for the purposes of this Vote—

Jacques Cartier Bridge—$51,100

Less: Funds available in Transport Vote 80 of the Revised Estimates, 1968-69—$51,099

Total—$1

The Chairman: These are payments to the National Harbours Board to cover deficits. Does that Board usually have deficits, Mr. Cloutier?

Mr. Cloutier: Well, it has deficits in some of its operations, but not in all of them. There is a deficit in the operation of the Jacques Cartier Bridge and this is the item that provides for a recoup on that particular operation. The next item, I think, relates to two other deficits.

The Chairman: This deficit is probably because they have removed the toll on the Jacques Cartier Bridge.

• 1125

Mr. Cloutier: Yes, that is right.

[*Interprétation*]

M. Peddle: Je vois. Il me semble bizarre qu'on emploie des termes de ce genre pour cet article particulier. Partout dans le Livre bleu, on parle de subventions et ainsi de suite, mais ici on parle d'aide financière.

M. Cloutier: Le mot qui prime est dans le texte du crédit même, et ce mot est «subventions», qui est la même chose que *grant* en anglais. Ce n'est peut-être pas une bonne réponse, et il n'y a peut-être pas de bonne réponse, mais je ne sais pas pourquoi on utilise le mot «aide financière» au lieu de «subvention».

M. Peddle: Je me demandais si c'était fait délibérément pour souligner le fait que le montant est assez élevé.

M. Cloutier: Pas pour ma part.

Le crédit 65b est adopté.

D—Conseil des ports nationaux

Crédit 75b—Versement au Conseil des ports nationaux pour payer le déficit encouru pendant l'année civile 1967 et le déficit prévu pour l'année civile 1968 (sauf l'intérêt sur les avances autorisées par le Parlement et la dépréciation des installations permanentes) dans l'exploitation du pont Jacques-Cartier, dans le port de Montréal—Autorisation du transfert de $51,099 du crédit 80 (Transports), Loi no 4 de 1968 portant affectation de crédits, aux fins du présent crédit—

Pont Jacques-Cartier—$51,100

Moins: Sommes disponibles dans le crédit 80 (Transports) du Budget revisé des dépenses de 1968-1969—$51,099

Total—$1

Le président: Ce sont les versements faits au Conseil des ports nationaux pour combler les déficits. Est-ce que le Conseil a habituellement des déficits, monsieur Cloutier?

M. Cloutier: Eh bien, il a des déficits dans certaines de ses exploitations, mais pas partout. Il y a un déficit pour l'exploitation du pont Jacques-Cartier et c'est le poste qui permet de renflouer cette exploitation. Le poste suivant, je crois, se rapporte à deux autres déficits.

Le président: On a supprimé le péage au pont Jacques-Cartier, ce qui explique le déficit.

M. Cloutier: Oui. C'est exact.

[*Text*]

Mr. McCutcheon: In other words, you do not have to pay anymore to go across the Jacques Cartier Bridge?

The Chairman: No, thanks to the government.

Mr. McCutcheon: Good. Free movement.

Item 75b agreed to.

Mr. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Mr. Chairman, I have another meeting at 11:30 and I wondered what the situation is. Will you continue without me?

The Chairman: Yes. We thank you very much, Mr. Thomson.

D—National Harbours Board (Continued)

Vote 77b—Payments to the National Harbours Board to be applied in payment of the balance of the deficit incurred in respect of the calendar year 1967 and the deficits (exclusive of interest on advances authorized by Parliament and depreciation on capital structures) expected to be incurred in the calendar year 1968 in the operation of the harbours detailed in the Estimates—To authorize the transfer of $799,399 from Transport Vote 80, Appropriation Act. No. 4, 1968 for the purposes of this Vote—

Halifax—$573,500

Saint John—$225,900

Total—$799,400

Less: Funds available in Transport Vote 80 of the Revised Estimates, 1968-69—$799,399

Total—$1

The Chairman: This is to cover debts in Halifax and Saint John.

Mr. Cloutier: That is right. This is the deficit of the total operation of the harbours at Halifax and Saint John, New Brunswick.

The Chairman: That is for the harbour itself, not the bridge.

Mr. Cloutier: No. There are no bridges operated by the National Harbours Board at either Halifax or Saint John, New Brunswick.

The Chairman: Mr. Lambert.

M. Lambert (Edmonton-Ouest): Pourriez-vous me dire, monsieur Cloutier, comment il se fait que vous ayez un montant de $800,000 disponible au crédit n° 80, et que vous vouliez prendre cet argent pour combler le déficit du Conseil des ports nationaux?

[*Interpretation*]

M. McCutcheon: En d'autres termes, on n'a plus à payer pour traverser le pont Jacques-Cartier?

Le président: Non, grâce au gouvernement.

M. McCutcheon: Très bien. La liberté de mouvement.

Le crédit 75b est adopté.

M. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Monsieur le président, j'ai une autre réunion à 11 h. 30. Je ne sais pas quelle est la situation. Pouvez-vous continuer sans moi?

Le président: Oui. Nous vous remercions de votre collaboration, de votre participation ici monsieur Thomson.

D—Conseil des Ports Nationaux (Suite)

Crédit 77b—Versements au Conseil des ports nationaux pour payer le solde du déficit encouru pendant l'année civile 1967 et les déficits prévus pour l'année civile 1968 (sauf l'intérêt sur les avances autorisées par le Parlement et la dépréciation des installations permanentes) dans l'exploitation des ports qui figurent au détail des affectations—Autorisation du transfer de $799,399 du crédit 80 (Transports), Loi n° 4 de 1968 portant affectation de crédits, aux fins du présent crédit—

Halifax—$573,500

Saint-Jean—$225,900

Total—$799,400

Moins: Sommes disponibles dans le crédit 80 (Transports) du Budget revisé des dépenses de 1968-1969—$799,399

Total—$1

Le président: Il s'agit des déficits de l'exploitation des ports d'Halifax et de Saint-Jean.

M. Cloutier: C'est exact. C'est le déficit de l'exploitation globale des ports à Halifax et à Saint-Jean, Nouveau-Brunswick.

Le président: C'est pour le port lui-même, non pour le pont?

M. Cloutier: Non. Le Conseil des ports nationaux n'exploite pas de ponts à Halifax ou à Saint-Jean, Nouveau-Brunswick.

Le président: Monsieur Lambert.

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): Could you tell me, Mr. Cloutier, how it happens that you have an amount of $800,000 available under vote No. 80, and that you wanted to use this money to pay for the deficit of the National Harbours Board?

[*Texte*]

M. Cloutier: Le crédit n° 80 prévoit une disposition touchant la rivière Saint-Charles, je crois; laissez-moi vérifier. C'est cela. Ce sont des travaux de construction d'un mur de soutènement le long de la rivière Saint-Charles, ces travaux progressent plus lentement qu'il n'était prévu, alors, cet argent-là ne sera pas dépensé cette année.

M. Lambert (Edmonton-Ouest): Tout cela est en prévision de la construction du nouveau pont de Québec, n'est-ce pas?

M. Cloutier: Ah, non, ah, non, ce n'est pas du tout dans la même direction.

Le président: Non, la rivière Saint-Charles.

M. Cloutier: La rivière Saint-Charles est entre Québec et Giffard, aux environs.

M. Lambert (Edmonton-Ouest): Je m'excuse. Nous sommes en bas de la ville de Québec.

M. Cloutier: Nous sommes à l'est plutôt qu'à l'ouest.

M. Lambert (Edmonton-Ouest): D'accord.

Le président: Monsieur Rodrigue.

M. Rodrigue: Cela veut-il dire que les travaux de la rivière Saint-Charles sont abandonnés...

M. Cloutier: Non, non, non.

M. Rodrigue: ...ou s'ils seront repris au cours des années subséquentes?

M. Cloutier: Cela continue. Je ne voudrais pas promettre, mais je suis à peu près sûr qu'il y a un poste dans les prévisions budgétaires 1968-1969-1970 à cet effet. Voyez-vous à la page 433, il est prévu pour les travaux de la rivière Saint-Charles un montant de trois millions.

Le président: Vous pouvez être sûr que les travaux vont être poursuivis, car autrement, il y aurait des problèmes.

M. Cloutier: Les travaux ont débuté en 1968-1969, mais à un rythme plus lent que prévu, et on anticipe de ne dépenser qu'un million et quelque cent mille au lieu de deux millions.

M. Rodrigue: Est-ce que les travaux de la rivière Saint-Charles doivent durer plusieurs années?

M. Cloutier: Je crois que oui, monsieur Rodrigue, mais je ne pourrais pas vous donner un plan précis du travail.

[*Interprétation*]

Mr. Cloutier: Vote 80 has a provision for the St. Charles River, I believe. Let me check this. Yes, that is correct. These are construction projects on a retaining wall along the St. Charles River, and they are progressing at a slower pace than expected, so that money will not be spent this year.

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): All this is in preparation for the construction of the new bridge in Quebec City, isn't that so?

Mr. Cloutier: No, it is not in the same area at all.

The Chairman: No, the St. Charles River.

Mr. Cloutier: St. Charles River is between Quebec City and Giffard.

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): Excuse me. We are upstream from Quebec City.

Mr. Cloutier: It is East of Quebec City, rather than to the West.

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): Agreed.

The Chairman: Mr. Rodrigue.

Mr. Rodrigue: Does this means that works on the St. Charles River will be abandoned...

Mr. Cloutier: No, no.

Mr. Rodrigue: ...or will they be resumed during the following years?

Mr. Cloutier: They will go on. I don't want to make any promises, but I am move or less sure that there is a vote in the estimates for 1968-1969-1970 to this effect. On page 433, provision is made for $3 million for work on the St. Charles River.

The Chairman: Are you sure that these projects will go on, because otherwise, problems will arise?

Mr. Cloutier: These works were started in 1968-1969, but at a slower pace than expected, and instead of spending $2 millions, we expect to spend only a few hundred thousand dollars above $1 million.

Mr. Rodrigue: Will the St. Charles River works continue for several years?

Mr. Cloutier: I think so, Mr. Rodrigue, but I could not give you a precise schedule of the works.

[*Text*]

Le président: En fait, monsieur Lambert, nous avons prévu $150,498 du crédit nº 80, car une partie est attribuée au crédit nº 75b et une autre au crédit nº 77b, provenant des dépenses prévues pour les travaux de la rivière Saint-Charles, afin d'avoir un montant exact.

Item 77b agreed to.

The Chairman: We have already got through Item 5b, Item 6b, Item 10b, and now that takes us to Veterans Affairs on page 25.

VETERANS AFFAIRS

Treatment Services

Vote 30b—Operation and Maintenance including authority, notwithstanding the Financial Administration Act, to spend revenue received during the year for hospital and related services—To authorize the transfer of $919,999 from Veterans Affairs Vote 10, Appropriation Act No. 4, 1968 for the purposes of this Vote—

Treatment Services—Operation of Hospitals and Administration

Other Professional and Special Services —$920,000

Less: Funds available in Veterans Affairs Vote 10 of the Revised Estimates, 1968-69—$919,999

Total $1

The Chairman: We had an amount for operating hospitals in the estimates previously.

Mr. Cloutier: That was in Health and Welfare, with respect to medical services.

The Chairman: Oh, yes.

Mr. Cloutier: This is the veterans' hospitals.

• 1130

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): Then, Mr. Chairman, what is here in effect is that there has been an additional requirement for the operation of the hospitals and related services of some $920,000 for "Professional and Special Services". I guess these are consultants' fees, and they are taking them out of a shortfall on expenditure for War Veterans Allowance and other special assistance allowances where the total sum voted had been $108 million.

[*Interpretation*]

The Chairman: In fact, Mr. Lambert, we have provided $150,498 from vote 80, because part has been allocated to vote 75b, and another part to vote 77b, issuing from the expenditures provided for the works on the St. Charles River, to give an exact figure.

Le crédit 77b est adopté.

Le président: Nous avons déjà adopté les crédits nºs 5b, 6b, 10b et nous en sommes maintenant aux anciens combattants à la page 25.

AFFAIRES DES ANCIENS COMBATTANTS

Services des traitements

Crédit 30b—Fonctionnement et entretien, y compris autorisation, nonobstant les dispositions de la Loii sur l'administration financière, de dépenser les recettes provenant, au cours de l'année, des services hospitaliers et connexes—Autorisation du transfert de $919,999 du crédit 10 (Affaires des anciens combattants), Loi nº 4 de 1968 portant affectation de crédits, aux fins du présent crédit—$1

Services des traitements—fonctionnement des hôpitaux et administration

Autres services professionnels et spéciaux —$920,000

Moins: Sommes disponibles dans le crédit 10 (Affaires des anciens combattants) du Budget revisé des dépenses de 1968-1969—$919,999

Total—$1

Le président: Nous avions auparavant dans le budget des dépenses un montant pour le fonctionnement des hôpitaux.

M. Cloutier: C'était dans la Santé et le Bien-être à l'égard des services médicaux.

Le président: Oui, je vois.

M. Cloutier: Il s'agit ici des hôpitaux des Anciens combattants.

M. Lambert (Edmonton-Ouest): Alors, monsieur le président, pourquoi exige-t-on des crédits supplémentaires pour le fonctionnement des hôpitaux et services connexes de quelque $920,000? Il s'agit je suppose d'honoraires de consultants, et ils les prennent à même un déficit des allocations aux anciens combattants et d'autres allocations d'aide spéciale où le crédit total se chiffrait à 108 millions de dollars.

[*Texte*]

Mr. Cloutier: This is so. I would like to just indicate, Mr. Lambert, that these are not consultants' fees; these are doctors' fees.

An hon. Member: That is what they call themselves.

Mr. Cloutier: Oh, they call themselves consultants now?

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): No, no, but this is the way that you handle it in Veterans Affairs. I mean doctors are retained on a consulting basis with regard to patients.

Mr. Cloutier: Yes, well I just wanted to specify that these are not the same sort of consultants we were talking about some time ago.

The Chairman: They are not business consultants.

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): Having occupied the position of Minister of this Department...

Mr. Cloutier: The reason for this increase is that it had been expected that when the 1968-69 estimates were constructed, Medicare would be in and a portion of these fees would have been paid through Medicare. Well, since only two provinces came in, there was a shortfall.

Item 30 agreed to.

VETERANS AFFAIRS

Treatment Services

Vote 35—Hospital Construction, Improvements, Equipment and Acquisition of Land including contributions to Provinces and other authorities towards such costs —To authorize the transfer of $599,999 from Veterans Affairs Vote 10, Appropriation Act No. 4, 1968 for the purposes of this Vote—$1

Operation of Hospitals

Hospital Construction and Improvements —$600,000

Less: Funds available in Veterans Affairs Vote 10 of the Revised Estimates, 1968-69—$599,999

Total—$1

Total, Veterans Affairs—$2

Total, Budgetary Estimates—$151,862,278

Mr. Cloutier: This is simply construction at St. Anne's Hospital at St. Anne de Bellevue, Quebec. The contractor is building it at a

[*Interprétation*]

M. Cloutier: Il ne s'agit pas ici d'honoraires de consultants, mais bien d'honoraires de médecins.

Une voix: C'est le nom qu'ils se donnent.

M. Cloutier: Ils s'appellent des consultants maintenant?

M. Lambert (Edmonton-Ouest): Non, mais c'est ce qu'on fait au ministère des Affaires des anciens combattants. Les médecins sont payés à titre d'experts ou de spécialistes.

M. Cloutier: Je veux dire que nous ne parlons pas des mêmes genres de conseillers ou consultants.

Le président: Ils ne sont pas des experts-conseils.

M. Lambert (Edmonton-Ouest): Ayant occupé le poste de ministre de ce ministère...

M. Cloutier: Cette augmentation s'explique par le fait qu'on s'attendait, lorsque l'on a établi les crédits de 1968-1969, que *Medicare* serait en vigueur et qu'il y aurait peut-être une portion de ces honoraires qui seraient payées par Medicare. Eh bien, comme il n'y a que deux provinces, il y a un déficit.

Le crédit 30b est adopté.

AFFAIRES DES ANCIENS COMBATTANTS

Services des traitements

Crédit 35b—Construction d'hôpitaux, améliorations, matériel et acquisition de terrains, y compris contributions aux provinces et autres organismes à l'égard de tels frais—Autorisation du transfert de $599,999 du crédit 10 (Affaires des anciens combattants), Loi nº 4 de 1968 portant affectation de crédits, aux fins du présent crédit—$1

Fonctionnement des hôpitaux

Construction d'hôpitaux et améliorations—$600,000

Moins: Sommes disponibles dans le crédit 10 (Affaires des anciens combattants) du Budget revisé des dépenses de 1968-1969—$599,999

Total—$1

Total: Affaires des anciens combattants—$2

Total des dépenses budgétaires—$151,862,278

M. Cloutier: Il s'agit simplement de la construction à l'hôpital Sainte-Anne, à Sainte-Anne-de-Bellevue, au Québec. L'entrepreneur

[*Text*]

quicker rate than had been anticipated, and the original provision made in the estimates is not sufficient.

The Chairman: Is that an entirely new building, or is it an improvement to the building that existed at St. Anne's.

Mr. Cloutier: I believe, sir, that this is a new wing begun in May 1968, and it is expected to be completed next year at a total cost of close to $16 million.

The Chairman: Gentlemen, are there any questions?

Item 35b agreed to.

LOANS, INVESTMENTS AND ADVANCES

Energy, Mines and Resources

Eldorado Nuclear Limited

Vote L3b—Loans to Eldorado Nuclear Limited in the 1968-69 and 1969-70 fiscal years, on terms and conditions approved by the Governor in Council, and to authorize Eldorado Nuclear Limited in the 1968-69 and 1969-70 fiscal years, on terms and conditions approved by the Governor in Council, to borrow from the Minister of Finance or others up to an aggregate amount not exceeding—$22,000,000

The Chairman: If I remember, Mr. Lambert, you had something to say on this item.

M. Lambert (Edmonton-Ouest): Monsieur le président, en ce qui concerne les prêts, à moins d'avoir le président de la Commission, M. Hellyer, il nous est impossible de les accepter, surtout les quatre derniers. Il n'appartient pas à M. Cloutier de nous fournir les explications. Nous avons peut-être des changements dans le crédit 27b du ministère des Finances. Dans d'autres, par contre, il n'y a pas de difficulté. Pour ne pas retarder les travaux du Comité, M. Cloutier pourrait, peut-être, nous donner des explications pour les crédits où il n'y a pas d'extension statutaire. Puisque nous siégeons depuis 9 h. 30, nous pourrions ajouner jusqu'à cet après-midi pour l'étude des crédits qui ont été réservés.

Le président: Pour ce qui est de votre demande de ce matin, monsieur Lambert, vous avez vu tout à l'heure que M. Zadra du bureau de M. Donald MacDonald était ici. Je lui ai fait par des demandes du Comité au

[*Interpretation*]

construit à un rythme beaucoup plus rapide que prévu, et les crédits autorisés dans les prévisions budgétaires originales sont insuffisants.

Le président: S'agit-il d'un bâtiment entièrement nouveau, ou d'une amélioration au bâtiment qui existait déjà à Sainte-Anne?

M. Cloutier: Je crois bien, monsieur, qu'il s'agit d'une nouvelle aile, dont on a commencé la construction en mai 1968, et que l'on prévoit être terminée l'an prochain; les coûts s'élèveront en tout à près de 16 millions de dollars.

Le président: Messieurs, avez-vous des questions?

L'article 35b est adopté.

PRÊTS, PLACEMENTS ET AVANCES

Énergie, Mines et Ressources

Eldorado Nuclear Limited

Crédit L3b—Prêts à la société Eldorado Nuclear Limited au cours des années financières 1968-1969 et 1969-1970, selon les modalités et conditions approuvées par le Gouverneur en conseil, et autorisation à la société Eldorado Nuclear Limited, au cours des années financières 1968-1969 et 1969-1970, selon les modalités et conditions approuvées par le Gouverneur en conseil, d'emprunter du ministre des Finances ou d'autres personnes jusqu'à concurrence de—$22,000,000

Le président: Si je me souviens bien, monsieur Lambert, vous aviez des observations à faire au sujet de ce crédit.

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): Mr. Chairman, with regard to these loans, we cannot accept them, especially the last four, unless the Chairman of the Commission, Mr. Hellyer, is here. It is not up to Mr. Cloutier to give us explanations. There may be changes in vote 27b of the Department of Finance. There are others, on the other hand, where there are no difficulties. In order not to delay the work of the Committee, Mr. Cloutier could perhaps give us some explanation for those votes where there is no statutory extension. Since we have been sitting since 9:30 a.m. we could adjourn until this afternoon in order to study the votes that have been reserved.

The Chairman: With regard to the request you made this morning, Mr. Lambert, you noticed a while ago that Mr. Zadra, who is an official of Mr. MacDonald, was here. I mentioned to him the requests made by the Com-

[*Texte*]

sujet de la présence des trois ministres dont vous avez parlé ce matin, soit l'hon. M. Chrétien, l'hon. M. Hellyer et l'hon. M. Drury. Je lui ai demandé de prendre les dispositions nécessaires pour qu'ils viennent témoigner devant notre Comité à 3 h. 30 cet après-midi.

M. Lambert (Edmonton-Ouest): D'accord.

• 1135

Le président: Entre-temps, nous allons étudier ce qui est possible, et nous réserverons les autres crédits pour cet après-midi à 3 h. 30. Est-ce que le crédit 2, 3b est dans la catégorie indiquée par M. Lambert?

M. Cloutier: Excusez-moi, j'étais à la mauvaise page. C'est L 3b. Le «L» indique que c'est un prêt. Non, le crédit L 36 ne l'est pas.

Le président: Est-ce qu'on veut des explications au sujet du crédit L 3b?

M. Lambert (Edmonton-Ouest): Oui.

Le président: Monsieur Cloutier, s'il vous plaît?

M. Cloutier: Cet emprunt est nécessaire pour combler les déficits de caisse que Eldorado Nuclear Limited devra supporter d'ici le mois de mars 1970. Eldorado Nuclear Limited n'a pas suffisamment d'encaisses pour financer ses opérations ordinaires et ses dépenses de capital. Car, Eldorado Nuclear Limited n'a pas l'intention de conclure des ententes de vente d'uranium pour livraison immédiate, parce que les prix actuels du marché sont trop bas; ce qui aurait pour résultat un déficit. Par contre Eldorado Nuclear Limited se propose de conclure des ententes de vente d'uranium pour livraison en 1972 et 1973, et d'emprunter les encaisses dont elle aurait besoin dans l'intervalle, en escomptant ses contrats à des taux raisonnables d'intérêt.

Eldorado Nuclear Limited voudrait pouvoir emprunter ces argents soit des institutions financières du secteur privé, soit du ministère des Finances, selon les conditions du marché au moment où la compagnie aura besoin de ces fonds.

Item L3b agreed to.

LOANS, INVESTMENTS AND ADVANCES

External Affairs

Vote L22b—To authorize the operation of a revolving fund in the current and subsequent fiscal years in accordance with terms and conditions approved by Treasury Board for the purpose of operating the central and regional Passport Offices

[*Interprétation*]

mittee concerning the presence of the three Ministers to whom you referred this morning, i.e. the Hon. J. Chrétien, the Hon. M. Hellyer, and the Hon. M. Drury. I asked him to make the necessary arrangements to have them as witnesses before our Committee at 3:30 this afternoon.

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): All right.

The Chairman: In the meantime, we shall study those votes that can be adopted and we shall reserve the others for this afternoon at 3:30 p.m. Is vote 2, 3b in the category mentioned by Mr. Lambert?

Mr. Cloutier: Excuse me, I had the wrong page. It is L3b. The letter L indicates that it is a loan. No, vote L3b is not in this category.

The Chairman: Does anyone want any explanations on vote L3b?

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): Yes.

The Chairman: Mr. Cloutier, please.

Mr. Cloutier: This loan is required to pay for the treasury deficits by Eldorado Nuclear Limited from now until March 1970. Eldorado Nuclear Limited does not have sufficient cash in hand to finance its normal operations and its capital expenditures. Because Eldorado Nuclear Limited doesn't propose to sign contracts for the sale of uranium for immediate delivery, because the present market prices are too low, and this would result in a deficit. On the other hand, Eldorado Nuclear Limited proposes to sign contracts for sales of uranium to be delivered in 1972 and 1973, and to borrow the money it would need in the meantime, by discounting its contracts at reasonable interest rates.

Eldorado Nuclear Limited would like to borrow that money either from financial institutions in the private sector, or from the Department of Finance, according to the market conditions at the time when the company will need that money.

L'article L3b est adopté.

PRÊTS, PLACEMENTS ET AVANCES

Affaires extérieures

Crédit L22b—Pour autoriser l'administration d'une caisse renouvelable au cours de la présente année financière et des années financières subséquentes, selon les modalités et conditions approuvées par le Conseil du trésor, afin d'assurer le fonc-

[*Text*]

expenditures for such purpose to be charged to the fund and such portion as may be determined by the Treasury Board of the revenue derived from passport services to be credited thereto; the amount outstanding at any one time under this authority not to exceed—$100,000

M. Cloutier: On propose d'établir un fonds de roulement pour les opérations du bureau des passeports, au ministère des Affaires extérieures, afin que ses opérations soient exécutées sur une base d'affaires qui permettrait aux revenus de supporter toutes les opérations.

Le président: Monsieur Rodrigue.

M. Rodrigue: Est-ce qu'il est question de l'ouverture de nouveaux bureaux des passeports à Montréal et Toronto?

M. Cloutier: Monsieur Rodrigue, je ne sais pas précisément où les nouveaux bureaux seront ouverts. Je l'ai su il y a quelques mois, mais je ne m'en souviens plus. Il est définitivement prévu de décentraliser les opérations afin de mettre davantage les services à la disposition de la population. Je ne me souviens tout simplement pas quel est le programme du ministère.

Le président: Je crois que la liste n'est pas définitive encore, monsieur Cloutier. On est en train d'établir la priorité des villes en fonction des demandes.

M. Cloutier: En fonction des demandes.

Le président: Et en fonction des moyens de transport qui existent dans les villes où la demande est plus forte.

Item L22b agreed to.

LOANS, INVESTMENTS AND ADVANCES

Finance

Vote L27b—To provide that for the purposes of the Canada Student Loans Act, notwithstanding subsection (4) of section 11 of that Act, the basic loan provision for the loan year commencing in 1968 shall be $80,000,000 and the basic loan provision for the loan year commencing in 1968 in an amount not exceeding 21% withstanding paragraph (a) of subsection (5) of section 11 of that Act, the Minister of Finance be authorized to determine the supplementary allocation for a province in the case of the loan year commencing in 1968 in an amount not exceeding 21%

[*Interpretation*]

tionnement du bureau principal et des bureaux régionaux des passeports; les dépenses à cette fin seront imputées à la caisse et toute partie des recettes provenant des services des passeports, que pourra déterminer le Conseil du trésor, sera portée au crédit de la caisse; le montant à payer aux termes de la présente autorisation ne doit pas dépasser—$100,000

Mr. Cloutier: There is a proposal to establish a cash reserve for the operations by the passport office, in the Department of External Affairs, so that these operations may be carried out on a commercial basis which would make it possible to cover all operational expenditures.

The Chairman: Mr. Rodrigue.

Mr. Rodrigue: Is there any question of opening new passport offices in Montreal and Toronto?

Mr. Cloutier: Mr. Rodrigue, I could not tell you exactly where the new offices will be opened. I knew a few months ago, but I have since forgotten it. Provision has definitely been made for the decentralization of operations in order to put services to a greater extent at the disposal of the public. I simply do not recall what the Department's program is.

The Chairman: I believe that the list has not yet been definitely established, Mr. Cloutier. Priority for the various cities is being established in terms of demand.

Mr. Cloutier: In terms of demand.

The Chairman: And in terms of the transportation facilities in those cities where demand is greater.

L'article L22b est adopté.

PRÊTS, PLACEMENTS ET AVANCES

Finances

Crédit L27b—Pour disposer que, aux fins de la Loi canadienne sur les prêts aux étudiants, nonobstant le paragraphe (4) de l'article 11 de cette loi, le montant de base affecté aux prêts pour l'année de prêt commençant en 1968 sera de $80,000,000 et le montant de base affecté aux prêts pour l'année de prêt commençant en 1969 sera de $100,000,000, et, nonobstant l'alinéa a) du paragraphe (5) de l'article 11 de cette loi, le ministre des Finances soit autorisé à déterminer le montant de la quote-part supplémentaire applicable à une province, dans le cas de

[*Texte*]

of the basic loan provision for that loan year and in the case of the loan year commencing in 1969 in an amount not exceeding 30% of the basic loan provision for that loan year—$1

M. Lambert (Edmonton-Ouest): Est-ce une extension? C'est un crédit de $1.00. Quel en est exactement le but?

M. Cloutier: Actuellement, le ministère des Finances peut subventionner les intérêts sur les emprunts des étudiants jusqu'à un maximum quelconque. En fonction de la demande prévue par les diverses provinces dans le domaine des prêts étudiants, il a été établi que les plafonds sur le montant principal des emprunts ne sont pas adéquats. Ce crédit prévoit une élévation de ces plafonds pour répondre à la demande.

M. Lambert (Edmonton-Ouest): Nonobstant tout cela, monsieur Cloutier, vous êtes sans doute d'accord pour dire que ceci est en fait un amendement à l'article 11 de la Loi canadienne sur les prêts aux étudiants.

M. Cloutier: Vous avez parfaitement raison, monsieur Lambert.

Le président: Est-ce que le montant de 80 millions avait été fixé par un règlement ou était-il inclus dans le Bill lui-même? Est-ce que l'amendement dont parle M. Lambert est un amendement à un règlement ou un amendement à la Loi elle-même?

M. Cloutier: C'est un amendement à la Loi, monsieur.

Le président: C'est un amendement à la Loi.

M. Cloutier: Je ne me souviens pas quel était exactement le montant établi dans la Loi. Mais ce montant a possiblement déjà été augmenté par un crédit dans les prévisions budgétaires. C'est le même genre de crédits que ceux dont vous parliez tout à l'heure au sujet de la Société centrale d'hypothèques et de logement.

M. Lambert (Edmonton-Ouest): Mais pour la Société centrale d'hypothèques et de logement, monsieur Cloutier, vous savez bien qu'on s'est toujours servi d'un amendement à la Loi, sauf erreur. Nous avons peut-être eu un crédit de $1 pour le programme des égouts et des plans de purification.

[*Interprétation*]

l'année de prêt commençant en 1968, lequel ne doit pas excéder 21 p. 100 du montant de base affecté aux prêts pour cette année de prêt et, dans le cas de l'année de prêt commençant en 1969, le montant ne doit pas excéder 30 p. 100 du montant de base affecté aux prêts pour cette dernière année de prêt—$1

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): Is it an extension? It is a $1.00 vote. What exactly is its purpose?

Mr. Cloutier: At the present time, the Department of Finance may subsidize the interest charges on student loans up to a certain maximum. In terms of the expected requests by the various provinces in the field of student loans, it has been established that the ceiling for the principal amounts of the loans is not enough. This vote provides for a raise in the ceiling to meet the demand.

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): Notwithstanding all that, Mr. Cloutier, you will no doubt agree that this is really an amendment to section 11 of the Canada Student Loans Act.

Mr. Cloutier: You are quite right, Mr. Lambert.

The Chairman: Had the figure of $80 million been established by a regulation or was it included in the bill itself? Is the amendment to which Mr. Lambert refers an amendment to a regulation or an amendment to the Act itself?

Mr. Cloutier: It is an amendment to the Act, sir.

The Chairman: It is an amendment to the Act.

Mr. Cloutier: I do not recall the exact amount that was established in the Act. But this amount may possibly already have been increased by a vote in the Estimates. It is the same type of votes about which you spoke earlier regarding the Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation.

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): And you know, Mr. Cloutier, where the Central Housing and Mortgage Corporation is concerned, we have always proceeded through an amendment to the Act, if I am not mistaken. We may perhaps have a $1.00 vote for the sewers program and purification plans.

[*Text*]

M. Cloutier: A ma connaissance...

M. Lambert (Edmonton-Ouest): Il y a quelques années, il y a eu un crédit de $1 qui a causé des ennuis.

M. Cloutier: Je pense qu'il y en a eu quatre l'an dernier.

M. Lambert (Edmonton-Ouest): L'année dernière?

M. Cloutier: Certainement. Je vais vous lire les explications que j'ai à l'égard de ces crédits. C'est au sujet de la Société centrale d'hypothèques et de logement. On dit ici:

"As has been done in the past".

M. Lambert (Edmonton-Ouest): M. Hellyer peut nous donner des explications au sujet de la Société centrale d'hypothèques et de logement. En fait, nous voulons une explication du ministre.

M. Cloutier: On dit que ce sont des crédits qui légifèrent. D'accord, mais quand les prévisions budgétaires deviennent Loi des subsides, elles font partie de la législation comme toute autre loi. C'est simplement la procédure qui est différente. Elles ont autant force de loi que les autres lois.

M. Lambert (Edmonton-Ouest): D'accord, mais c'est la procédure que nous n'approuvons pas.

Le président: Nous réservons le crédit L 27b pour 15 h. 30 cet après-midi. Nous continuons avec le crédit L32b, Pêcheries et Forêts.

On Item L32b.

Fisheries and Forestry

Vote L32b—Loans in the current and subsequent fiscal years and in accordance with terms and conditions to be prescribed by the Governor in Council to assist processors of ground-fish in Canada, which, as determined by the Fisheries Prices Support, are unable to obtain sufficient financing on reasonable terms from other sources, to maintain raw fish prices, i.e. prices to primary producers, at the 1966-1968 level—$6,000,000

Item L32b agreed to.

On Item L35b.

[*Interpretation*]

Mr. Cloutier: As far as I can remember...

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): A few years ago, there was a $1.00 vote that caused some trouble.

Mr. Cloutier: I believe there were four, last year.

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): Last year?

Mr. Cloutier: Certainly. I shall read the explanation I have about those votes. It is under the Central Housing and Mortgage Corporation, and reads as follows:

«comme on l'a fait dans le passé.»

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): Mr. Hellyer can give us some explanation concerning the Central Housing and Mortgage Corporation. In fact, we want an explanation from the Minister.

Mr. Cloutier: It is said that those votes relate to legislation. I agree, but when the Estimates become the Appropriation Act, they are part of legislation just like any other Act. It is only the procedure that is different. They are enforceable like the other Acts.

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): Yes, but it is the procedure that we are against.

The Chairman: We stand vote L27b for 3:30 p.m. We shall proceed with vote L32b, Fisheries and Forestry.

Pêcheries et Forêts

Crédit L32b—Prêts au cours de la présente année financière et des années subséquentes et selon les modalités et conditions prescrites par le Gouverneur en conseil, pour aider les conditionneurs de poisson de fond au Canada, qui, selon qu'il est établi par l'Office de soutien des prix des produits de la pêche, ne peuvent pas obtenir ailleurs les fonds nécessaires, à des conditions raisonnables, pour maintenir les prix du poisson entier, c'est-à-dire les prix demandés aux producteurs primaires, au niveau des prix de 1966-1968—$6,000,000

Le crédit L32b est adopté.

[*Texte*]

LOANS, INVESTMENTS AND ADVANCES

Indian Affairs and Northern Development

Indian Affairs

Vote L35b—To provide that the total amount of outstanding advances at any one time with respect to loans to Indians under section 69 of the Indian Act, notwithstanding subsection 5 thereof, shall not exceed $2,650,000; additional amount required—$250,000

M. Lambert (Edmonton-Ouest): Je crois que c'est encore la même chose ici, n'est-ce pas, monsieur Cloutier? Est-ce que la limite est fixée par un règlement ou par la Loi?

M. Cloutier: Non, puisque ce n'est pas un crédit de $1, c'est donc dire que c'est fixé par un crédit antérieur.

• 1145

Le président: On se réfère tout de même au paragraphe 5 de l'article 69. Est-ce un amendement à cet article ou...

M. Cloutier: Je ne crois pas, monsieur. Si c'était un crédit qui légifère de la façon indiquée par M. Lambert tantôt, ce serait un crédit de $1.

Item L35b agreed to.

On Item L65b.

Northern Canada Power Commission

Vote L65b—Advances to the Northern Canada Power Commission for the purpose of capital expenditures in accordance with section 15 of the Northern Canada Power Commission Act—$997,000

M. Lambert (Edmonton-Ouest): Est-ce que la Commission d'énergie du Nord canadien explique pourquoi elle veut $1 million?

M. Cloutier: Oui, monsieur. Il y a plusieurs projets. Il y a trois projets qui sont en voie d'achèvement. L'un est à Inuvik: la construction d'un édifice à bureaux, $235,000.; il y a les services de transmission à Rae en vue de parfaire le système de Snare River et de fournir de l'énergie à Frank Channel, à Rae et à un nouveau centre tout près de Rae; le montant requis est de $250,000. On a commencé le projet lui-même en 1967-68 à un coût total prévu de $850,000.

On veut également améliorer des installations qui existent déjà à Fort Simpson, Fort McPherson, Cambridge Bay et Dawson. Trois

[*Interprétation*]

PRÊTS, PLACEMENTS ET AVANCES

Affaires Indiennes et Nord Canadien

Affaires Indiennes

Crédit L35b—Pour disposer que le montant total des avances non recouvrées, en rapport avec les prêts consentis aux Indiens aux termes de l'article 69 de la Loi sur les Indiens, nonobstant les dispositions du paragraphe 5 de cet article, ne doit pas dépasser $2,650,000; montant additionnel requis—$250,000

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): Again, I believe it is the same thing here, isn't that so, Mr. Cloutier? Is the limit established by regulation or by the Act?

Mr. Cloutier: No, since it is not a $1.00 vote, it means that it is therefore established by a previous vote.

The Chairman: But reference is made nevertheless to Subsection 5 of section 69. Is it an amendment to that section or...

Mr. Cloutier: I don't think so, sir. If it were a vote that legislates in the way Mr. Lambert says, it would be a $1.00 vote.

Le crédit L35b est adopté.

Commission d'Énergie du Nord canadien

Crédit L65b—Avances à la Commission d'énergie du Nord canadien pour fins de dépenses et immobilisations aux termes de l'article 15 de la Loi sur la Commission d'énergie du Nord canadien——$997,000

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): Has the Northern Canada Power Commission given any explanation for that $1 million they request?

Mr. Cloutier: Yes, there are several projects, sir. There are these projects which are about to be completed. One in Inuvik: the construction of an office building at a cost of $235,000; the transmission services in Rae to complete the system at Snare River, and supply energy to Frank Channel, Rae, and to a new centre close to Rae, the cost of which amounts to $250,000. The project itself was started in 1967-68 at a total expected cost of $850,000.

There are also improvements to be made to existing buildings at Fort Simpson, Fort McPherson, Cambridge Bay and Dawson.

[*Text*]

nouveau projets sont commencés, l'un à Chesterfield Inlet, l'un à Fort Good Hope et l'un à Yellowknife.

Item L65b agreed to.

On Item L82b.

Industry, Trade and Commerce

Dominion Bureau of Statistics

Vote L82b—To authorize the operation of a revolving fund in the current and subsequent fiscal years in accordance with terms and conditions approved by the Treasury Board for the purpose of financing the cost of special statistical services performed by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics at the request of government departments and agencies, and others; expenditures for such services to be charged to the fund and such portion as may be determined by the Treasury Board of the amounts received in payment for such services to be credited thereto; the amount outstanding under this authority at any time not to exceed—$250,000

The Chairman: This is a revolving fund.

Mr. Cloutier: That is it. This is to facilitate the operations of the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. To a growing extent DBS has been requested to undertake special assignments to meet the needs of various agencies within and outside the government. These requests for services are, of necessity, made at various times in the year, and it is therefore not possible to provide in the Estimates of DBS itself for all the resources necessary to meet these unexpected demands for service. It is therefore proposed to provide DBS with a revolving fund which will permit the development of a system in which the agencies demanding the services will provide the monies for them, and the Bureau itself will be in a position to place these services on a full cost recovery basis, and avoid having to disrupt its own ongoing program.

Item L82b agreed to.

On Item L83b.

National Revenue

Customs and Excise

Vote L83b—To extend the purposes of the revolving fund established by Vote 632, Appropriation Act No. 2, 1954, for acquiring and managing material to be used in the manufacture of uniforms, to include the acquisition and managing of other materials, stores and supplies in accordance with terms and conditions approved

[*Interpretation*]

Three new projects have been started: at Chesterfield Inlet, Fort Good Hope and Yellowknife.

Le crédit L65b est adopté.

Industrie et Commerce

Bureau fédéral de la statistique

Crédit L82b—Pour autoriser l'administration d'une caisse renouvelable, au cours de la présente année financière et des années subséquentes et selon les modalités et conditions approuvées par le Conseil du trésor, devant servir à financer le coûts de services statistiques spéciaux fournis par le Bureau fédéral de la statistique à la demande des ministères et organismes de l'État et d'autres organismes les dépenses à cette fin seront imputées à la caisse et toute partie des recettes provenant de ces services, que pourra déterminer le Conseil du trésor, seront créditées à la caisse le montant à payer aux termes de la présente autorisation ne doit pas dépasser—$250,000

Le président: C'est une caisse renouvelable.

M. Cloutier: C'est pour faciliter l'activité du Bureau fédéral de la Statistique, qui est chargé, de plus en plus, d'entreprendre des études spéciales afin de répondre aux demandes de différents ministères et du secteur privé. Ces demandes de service sont présentées à différentes périodes de l'année. Il n'est donc pas possible, dans les crédits du Bureau fédéral de la Statistique de prévoir tous les montants nécessaires pour répondre à ces demandes imprévues de service. Par conséquent, on se propose de mettre à la disposition du Bureau fédéral de la Statistique, une caisse renouvelable, qui permettra de mettre sur pied un système en vertu duquel les organismes demandant des services, les défrayeront, et le Bureau lui-même sera en mesure d'assurer ces services sans perturber son programme régulier.

Le crédit L82b est adopté.

Revenu National

Douanes et Accise

Crédit L83b—Pour étendre les objets de la caisse renouvelable établie par le crédit 632 de la Loi des subsides n° 2 de 1954, pour l'achat et l'utilisation des tissus destinés à la confection d'uniformes, afin d'inclure l'achat et l'utilisation d'autres matières, fournitures et approvisionnements, selon les modalités et conditions

[*Texte*]

by the Treasury Board and to increase to $750,000 the amount that may be charged to the fund at any time; additional amount required—$660,000

The Chairman: This is a revolving fund as well.

Mr. Cloutier: That is also the case. At the moment, the Department operates a revolving fund in the amount of $90,000 to purchase the cloth used in the manufacture of Customs and Excise Officers' uniforms. It is now proposed to increase the revolving fund to $750,000 and to extend its operation to provide for stores and materials that the Department normally acquires in bulk in the course of the year so as to dispense, in the course of a year, on a charge basis to its various operations.

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): I suppose this reflects the increase in the price of men's suits and clothing.

Mr. Cloutier: No, no, the purpose of the increase is not in relation to the cloth. It is other items that will be financed through the revolving fund; such as stamps, labels, and stationery items used throughout the ports across the country.

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): What have they been doing up to now, because there is a big difference between $90,000 and $750,000?

Mr. Cloutier: That is right. The increase is related to these new items that will be carried through the revolving fund.

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): Yes, but National Revenue has been utilizing these over the past years. How were they handling them before?

Mr. Cloutier: They were handling it on a less strict internal control system. They have been modernizing their operation considerably over the last few years and delegating responsibility, more managerial responsibility and accountability through their various field offices. Now they are putting all their field operations on a budgetary system which would provide for a strict accounting control as to what is spent in each area, and this will facilitate that accounting control.

Under the old system, the supplies were bought, stored here in Ottawa, and if a collector in any port needed something he just wrote in and he got it. He was not charged for it. Under this system his area of responsibility will be charged with what he uses so that it will be easier indeed it would be possible to assess his effectiveness in the course of the year.

[*Interprétation*]

approuvées par le Conseil du trésor, et pour porter à $750,000 le montant qui peut être imputé à la Caisse montant additionnel requis—$660,000

Le président: C'est également une caisse renouvelable.

M. Cloutier: C'est aussi le cas. A l'heure actuelle nous avons une caisse renouvelable de $90,000 pour l'achat de tissu destiné à la confection des uniformes du ministère. On a l'intention d'augmenter ce fonds pour le porter à $750,000 et y inclure l'achat et l'utilisation d'autres matières que le ministère achète habituellement en gros durant l'année, de sorte qu'il n'y ait pas de découvert au fur et à mesure de ses achats pendant l'année.

M. Lambert (Edmonton-Ouest): Ces chiffres reflètent l'augmentation du prix des vêtements pour hommes, je suppose.

M. Cloutier: Non. Ce supplément n'est pas pour l'achat du tissu mais pour d'autres dépenses; par exemple, les étiquettes, les timbres, le papier, la papeterie qui servent dans les ports de tout le pays.

M. Lambert (Edmonton-Ouest): Mais qu'est-ce qu'ils ont fait jusqu'ici? Il y a une grande différence entre $90,000 et $750,000.

M. Cloutier: L'augmentation se rapporte à ces nouveaux articles qui seront imputés à la caisse renouvelable.

M. Lambert (Edmonton-Ouest): Mais le Revenu National s'en sert depuis longtemps. Comment les défrayait-on avant?

M. Cloutier: Ces frais étaient imputés de façon moins rigoureuse au système interne de comptabilité. Ils ont modernisé leur façon de procéder depuis quelques années, ils délèguent plus de responsabilité de gestion et de comptabilité à leurs fonctionnaires régionaux. Maintenant, ils imposent un budget à toutes les activités régionales afin d'assurer un meilleur contrôle de la comptabilité des dépenses dans chaque région.

Selon l'ancien système, le matériel était acheté, entreposé ici à Ottawa, et si un percepteur, dans un port, avait besoin de quelque chose il le demandait et l'obtenait. Cela ne lui fut pas imputé. Selon ce système, son domaine de responsabilité sera imputé selon ce qu'il utilise de sorte que ce sera plus simple, en fait il sera possible d'évaluer son efficacité au cours de l'année.

[*Text*]

Vote L83b agreed to.

LOANS, INVESTMENTS AND ADVANCES

Solicitor General

Correctional Services

L103b—To authorize, in the current and subsequent fiscal years, in accordance with terms and conditions approved by Treasury Board, loans to parolees for assistance in their rehabilitation; to authorize the Minister, in accordance with terms and conditions approved by Treasury Board, to forgive the repayment of a loan or any part thereof made to a parolee under this authority; and to authorize a special Account in the Consolidated Revenue Fund to be known as the Parolee's Loan Account

(a) to which all loans made under this authority shall be charged; and

(b) to which shall be credited

(i) all repayments of principal amount of loans, and

(ii) all amounts the payment for which is forgiven by the Minister under his authority; the total amount that may be outstanding under this authority at any time not to exceed $10,000

Mr. Cloutier: The purpose of this item is to authorize the making of loans to parolees to assist them in their rehabilitation. It is intended to authorize an account within the Consolidated Revenue Fund to which it is intended to credit the amounts repaid which will then be available for additional or new loans to other parolees.

Provision is also sought for the Minister to forgive the repayment of all or part of the loan should circumstances warrant such actions—for instance, in the case of the death of a recipient. There has been in existence since 1963 authority for such loans, but the loans item in the estimates of that time did not provide authority for relending the repayments, nor for forgiveness of the part of the loan.

M. Ouellet: Est-ce que je peux demander, monsieur le président...

Le président: Monsieur Ouellet?

M. Ouellet: ... quel était le montant prévu en 1963? Le total?

[*Interpretation*]

Le crédit L83b est adopté.

PRÊTS, PLACEMENTS ET AVANCES

Solliciteur Général

Services correctionnels

Crédit L103b—Pour autoriser, au cours de la présente année financière et des années subséquentes, selon les modalités et conditions approuvées par le Conseil du trésor, des prêts aux libérés sur parole pour leur aider à se réhabiliter; pour autoriser le ministre, selon les modalités et conditions approuvées par le Conseil du trésor, à ne pas réclamer le remboursement de la totalité ou d'une partie d'un montant prêté à un libéré sur parole en vertu de la présente autorisation; pour autoriser, en outre, la création d'un compte spécial du Fonds du revenu consolidé, qui sera désigné sous le nom de Compte des prêts aux libérés sur parole

a) auquel seront imputés tous les prêts consentis aux termes de la présente autorisation; et

b) auquel seront crédités

(i) tous les remboursements du montant principal des prêts, et

(ii) tous les montants dont le remboursement n'est pas réclamé par le Ministre, en vertu de la présente autorisation;

le montant total à payer en vertu de la présente autorisation ne devant pas dépasser—$10,000

M. Cloutier: Le but de cet article est d'autoriser les prêts aux libérés sur parole pour faciliter leur réhabilitation. On a l'intention d'autoriser un compte dans le cadre du Fonds du revenu consolidé dans lequel seront versés les remboursements qui seront ensuite mis à la disposition de nouveaux détenus libérés sur parole.

On demande également des dispositions pour que le ministre puisse oublier le remboursement de tout ou partie d'un prêt si les circonstances exigent une telle action, par exemple en cas de décès de l'emprunteur. Depuis 1963, nous avons le pouvoir d'autoriser ces prêts, mais les dispositions de la Loi ne prévoyaient pas la possibilité de reprêter les remboursements ni de remettre une partie de la dette.

Mr. Ouellet: Mr. Chairman, may I ask...

The Chairman: Mr. Ouellet?

Mr. Ouellet: ... what the amount provided was in 1963? The total amount?

[*Texte*]

M. Cloutier: Je crois, monsieur, que c'était $10,000, oui, je suis à peu près sûr que c'était $10,000 mais il n'était pas permis de faire un fonds de roulement de cela. Le $10,000 a été prête, seulement, le fonds est presque vide en ce moment.

M. Ouellet: Épuisé. Pouvez-vous nous dire combien de réhabilités ont eu recours à ce fonds?

M. Cloutier: Non, je ne peux pas, monsieur Ouellet.

M. Ouellet: Vous n'avez aucune idée. Savez-vous qui a la discrétion d'accorder ces prêts? Est-ce la Commission nationale des libérations conditionnelles, est-ce une agence sociale ou le bureau du ministre?

M. Cloutier: Non, je ne peux pas vous dire cela.

Le président: Si vous lisez, excusez-moi, monsieur Cloutier, si vous lisez ici le texte du vote L103b, à la page 28, il dit ceci:

> «... pour autoriser le ministre, selon les modalités et conditions approuvées par le Conseil du trésor, à ne pas réclamer le remboursement de la totalité ou d'une partie d'un montant prêté à un libéré sur parole...»

M. Ouellet: D'accord, monsieur le président. Le ministre, lui, a l'autorité de ne pas réclamer le remboursement, mais qui fait le prêt?

• 1155

M. Cloutier: Je ne peux pas vous dire, monsieur Ouellet. Ce serait prévu cela aux règlements, qu'on demanderait au Conseil du trésor de l'approuver.

M. Ouellet: D'accord.

L103b agreed to.

Supply and Services

Vote L104b—To authorize the operation of a revolving fund in the current and subsequent fiscal years in accordance with terms and conditions approved by the Treasury Board for the purpose of financing the operations of the Canadian Government Printing Bureau: expenditures to be charged to the fund and revenues from the said operation to be credited thereto: the amount outstanding under this authority at any time not to exceed —$7,000,000

Mr. Cloutier: This revolving fund is a replacement of the statutory revolving fund operated by the government Printing Bureau.

[*Interprétation*]

Mr. Cloutier: I think it was $10,000, yes I am pretty well sure that it was $10,000, but it was not permitted to use it to set up a capital fund. The $10,000 has been lent, but the fund is almost exhausted at the present time.

Mr. Ouellet: Exhausted. Do you know the number of rehabilitated persons who used that fund?

Mr. Cloutier: I would not know, Mr. Ouellet.

Mr. Ouellet: You have no idea. Who can grant those loans? Is it the National Parole Board or is it a social agency or the Minister's office?

Mr. Cloutier: I cannot tell you that.

The Chairman: If you read—excuse me, Mr. Cloutier—if you read the text of the vote L103b, on page 28, it says:

> "... to authorize the Minister, in accordance with terms and conditions approved by Treasury Board, to forgive the repayment of a loan or any part thereof made to a parolee..."

Mr. Ouellet: Agreed, Mr. Chairman. The Minister has the power not to ask for reimbursement, but who grants the loan?

Mr. Cloutier: I cannot tell you, Mr. Ouellet. That would be in the regulations, i.e. that the Treasury Board would be called upon to approve it.

Mr. Ouellet: Agreed.

Le crédit L103b est adopté.

Approvisionnements et services

Crédit L104b—Autorisation d'administrer une caisse renouvelable au cours de la présente année financière et des années financières subséquentes, conformément aux modalités et conditions approuvées par le Conseil du trésor, afin de financer les activités de l'Imprimerie du gouvernement canadien; les dépenses seront imputées sur la caisse et les revenus desdites activités y seront créditées; la somme disponible dans cette caisse en vertu de la présente autorisation ne devant jamais dépasser—$7,000,000

M. Cloutier: Cette caisse renouvelable est censée remplacer celle qui est actuellement gérée par l'Imprimerie du gouvernement

[*Text*]

The printing act, which I think dates back to 1886 if my memory serves me rightly, established a revolving fund of $2 million. This amount was brought up to $4 million about 15 years ago and the government Printing Bureau which operates under the Public Printing and Stationery Act as a result of reorganization is being brought under the Department of Supply and Services. The old stationery and printing act will, in effect, become extinct with the passage of Bill No. C-173 and at that point there will be a need for a new provision for a revolving fund if this is established.

Item L104b agreed to.

Transport

Vote L107b—Loans in the current and subsequent fiscal years, on such terms and conditions as the Treasury Board may approve, for the construction and acquisition of ferry vessels and related equipment—$16,000,000

Mr. Cloutier: These loans will be used to finance the acquisition and construction over the next two years and three vessels for the P.E.I. ferry service. It is planned to acquire one used ferry vessel for delivery in the spring of 1969 and to construct two additional summer-type ferries at a cost of $5 million each for delivery in 1971.

Mr. McCutcheon: You said "a new used ferry to P.E.I"?

Mr. Cloutier: Not a new used ferry.

Mr. McCutcheon: I mean a new used one to the Department.

Mr. Cloutier: The acquisition is planned of a used ferry to come into service in the spring of 1969 and the construction of two new summer-type ferries to come into service in 1971.

Mr. McCutcheon: I see. There is nothing in this item towards the building of the causeway to P.E.I.

Mr. Cloutier: No sir, this is simply a ferry service that quite independently of whether a causeway is built or not will be required in view of the traffic requirements.

Mr. Goode: These are basically loans, then, are they not...

Mr. Cloutier: That is right, sir.

Mr. Goode: ...to the provincial government?

[*Interpretation*]

national. La Loi concernant les impressions officielles, qui je pense date de 1886, a établi une caisse renouvelable de $2,000,000; ce montant a été porté à $4,000,000 il y a environ 15 années, et l'Imprimerie du gouvernement qui est gérée en fonction de la Loi sur les impressions et la papeterie publiques passe maintenant sous l'égide du ministère de l'approvisionnement et des services. La loi sur les impressions et la papeterie publiques sera en fait annulée par l'adoption du Bill C-173. A ce moment-là, il sera nécessaire d'avoir une clause permettant l'autorisation d'une caisse si cela est établi.

Le crédit L104b est adopté.

Transports

Crédit L107b—Prêts, au cours de la présente année financière et des années financières subséquentes, conformément aux modalités et conditions que le Conseil du trésor approuvera, pour l'acquisition de bacs et de matériel connexe—$16,000,000.

M. Cloutier: Ces prêts seront utilisés pour financer l'acquisition et la construction, dans les deux prochaines années, de trois bateaux pour le service de bacs de l'Î.-P.-É. On a l'intention d'acheter un bac d'occasion livrable au printemps 1969 et de faire construire deux autres bacs pour l'été qui coûteront chacun $5,000,000 et seront livrés en 1971.

M. McCutcheon: Vous dites un nouveau bac d'occasion pour l'Île-du-Prince-Édouard?

M. Cloutier: Pas un nouveau bac d'occasion.

M. McCutcheon: Je veux dire un nouveau bac d'occasion pour le ministère.

M. Cloutier: L'acquisition d'un bac d'occasion est prévue, il devrait entrer en service au printemps 1969, il est également prévu la construction de deux nouveaux bacs pour le service d'été, entrant en service en 1971.

M. McCutcheon: Je vois. Rien dans cela ne se rapporte à la construction de la chaussée vers l'Î.-P.-É.

M. Cloutier: Non monsieur, c'est seulement le service de bacs et c'est indépendant de la question de la construction de la chaussée. La construction de celle-ci dépendra des exigences de la circulation.

M. Goode: Ce sont des prêts qui ne sont pas faits...

M. Cloutier: Exact, monsieur.

M. Goode: ...au gouvernement provincial?

[*Texte*]

Mr. Cloutier: No, these vessels will be leased to the operator of the ferry service.

Mr. Goode: I see; he is a private operator?

Mr. Cloutier: There are two ferries; one is a private ferry and the other is operated by the CNR.

Mr. Goode: Is this same courtesy not given to the government of British Columbia for ferry services? It seems to me a little bit unjust that one province should receive this benefit and perhaps another one does not.

Mr. Cloutier: Well, these services are not operated by the province.

Mr. Goode: No, no, but this does not matter. In British Columbia they used to be operated by the—well, Canadian Pacific still operates one and there were two other private firms who have since discontinued. But it seems to me controversial for the federal government to guarantee loans and give money to private operators for the benefit of people on this island if they do not do the same thing for the people of British Columbia.

The Chairman: That is a good observation but I do not believe you have the proper witness to answer it. It is a matter of policy.

Mr. Cloutier: Perhaps part of your question will be answered by the next item, sir.

Mr. Goode: Mr. Chairman, perhaps you are correct, but people from British Columbia must speak out when injustices are being done, just as people of P.E.I. obviously have done and received action because of it.

The Chairman: You can make all the representations you wish but directly to the Minister.

• 1200

Mr. Ouellet?

M. Ouellet: Monsieur le président, un point qui a été soulevé tout à l'heure et qui est quand même assez important. Si le gouvernement a l'intention de construire une chaussée à l'Île-du-Prince-Édouard, est-ce que l'acquisition de ces bateaux ne deviendra pas un achat inutile?

M. Cloutier: Non, monsieur Ouellet, et pour la raison suivante. Si je me souviens bien, la construction de cette chaussée demandera 7 ou 8 ans. Même si cela commençait l'été pro-

[*Interprétation*]

M. Cloutier: Non. Ces bâtiments seront loués à l'exploitant du service de bacs.

M. Goode: Je vois, l'exploitant est-il du secteur privé?

M. Cloutier: Il y a deux bacs. L'un est privé, l'autre est exploité par le Canadien-National.

M. Goode: Et l'on n'applique pas les mêmes privilèges à la Colombie-Britannique pour l'exploitation de leurs bacs? Il me semble que c'est un peu injuste qu'une province reçoive ces avantages et l'autre peut-être pas.

M. Cloutier: Ces services ne sont pas exploités par la province.

M. Goode: Non, je sais. Peu importe. En Colombie-Britannique, ils étaient exploités, euh!... le Canadien-Pacifique en exploite encore un, et il y avait deux entreprises du secteur privé qui ont cessé l'exploitation. Il me paraît discriminatoire de la part du gouvernement fédéral de prêter ou donner de l'argent à des exploitants pour le bénéfice des habitants d'une île, et non pas pour le bénéfice des habitants de Colombie-Britannique?

Le président: C'est une bonne question, mais je ne pense pas que vous ayez la bonne personne pour y répondre. C'est une question de politique.

M. Cloutier: Peut-être que vous trouverez une réponse partielle à cette question dans le prochain crédit.

M. Goode: Monsieur le président, vous avez peut-être raison mais les gens de la Colombie-Britannique doivent s'élever contre les injustices qui sont faites, tout comme les gens de l'île du Prince-Édouard l'ont fait. Ils ont reçu le bénéfice de leur action.

Le président: Vous pouvez faire toutes les réclamations que vous voulez, mais il faut les faire au ministre.

Mr. Ouellet: Mr. Chairman, a point was raised a moment ago and it was an important one. If the government intends to build a causeway to Prince Edward Island, will the acquisition of these ferries not be a useless purchase?

Mr. Cloutier: No, Mr. Ouellet, for the following reason. If I remember rightly, the construction of that causeway would take 7 or 8 years. Even if it were to be started next

[*Text*]

chain, il faut assurer un service en vue du trafic prévu pour cette période de l'année, tout à fait indépendamment de l'existence d'une chaussée. Quant à ces bateaux, l'un est acheté et les deux autres seront conçus de façon à pouvoir servir ailleurs, au besoin.

M. Ouellet: D'accord.

Mr. McCutcheon: I would like to point out to our friend from B.C. that apparently B.C. is not doing too badly. I see an item here, Fraser River, $1,395,000; Vancouver Harbour, $8,360,000; and then the next item has something to do with the Vancouver International Airport. I would hate to have our record spoiled with his tears!

Mr. Goode: Mr. Chairman, you will notice that the one on the airport is a loan and it is to be a toll bridge, which is something that I would like to bring up later.

Mr. Cloutier: And so is the item for the ferries. It is a loan item and there will be tolls collected.

Mr. Goode: Has the history of these loans been that they have been repaid?

Mr. Cloutier: I do not think there have been any loans for bridges up to now quite in the manner that this was done? The Jacques Cartier bridge was constructed before this and I think it was a creation of the Harbours Board. I cannot bring to memory similar instances in the past, sir.

Mr. Goode: Is it still possible that these loans can be forgiven by a kind Minister of Justice?

Mr. Cloutier: There would have to be legislation to do this.

The Chairman: I am sure the witness cannot answer that. He does not know what will happen within three or four years. Shall vote L107b carry?

Mr. Goode: May I ask one more question, please? How long is the loan for?

Mr. Cloutier: I do not know that the loan has actually been made. That has not been determined.

Mr. Goode: I can find out from the Department.

M. Lambert (Edmonton-Ouest): Monsieur le président, peut-être serait-il préférable de le réserver, puisque vous n'avez plus quorum.

[*Interpretation*]

summer, we have to provide service for the traffic that is expected during that time of the year quite independently of the existence of a causeway. Regarding these ferries, one has been bought and the two others are designed to be able to provide service elsewhere, if necessary.

Mr. Ouellet: Agreed.

M. McCutcheon: Je voudrais simplement faire remarquer à notre collègue de la Colombie-Britannique que sa province ne s'en tire pas trop mal. Je vois un poste ici, «Fleuve Fraser», $1,395,000; «port de Vancouver», $8,360,000; puis le poste suivant a quelque chose à voir avec l'aéroport international de Vancouver. Je n'aimerais pas beaucoup que ses plaintes figurent au compte rendu.

M. Goode: Monsieur le président, vous remarquerez que le poste relatif à l'aéroport est un prêt et qu'on prévoit la construction d'un pont à péage; c'est une question sur laquelle j'aimerais revenir plus tard.

M. Cloutier: Il en est de même pour les traverses. Le poste prévoit un prêt et la perception de droits de passage.

M. Goode: Est-ce qu'on a remboursé ces prêts?

M. Cloutier: Je ne crois pas qu'il y ait eu des prêts pour les ponts, jusqu'à présent, comme pour ce cas-ci. Le pont Jacques-Cartier a été construit avant cela, et je crois que c'est une réalisation du Conseil des ports. Je ne me souviens pas qu'il y ait eu d'autres exemples de ce genre dans le passé, Monsieur.

M. Goode: Mais, est-il possible qu'un ministre de la Justice bienveillant puisse faire remise de ces prêts?

M. Cloutier: Il faudrait d'abord une loi.

Le président: Le témoin ne peut pas répondre ainsi. Il ne sait pas ce qui va se passer dans trois ou quatre ans.

Le crédit L107b est-il approuvé?

M. Goode: Puis-je poser une autre question? Quelle est la durée du prêt?

M. Cloutier: Le prêt n'a pas encore été accordé, que je sache. On n'a pas précisé la durée.

M. Goode: Je m'informerai auprès du ministère.

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): Mr. Chairman, it might be better to reserve this vote, since you no longer have a quorum.

[*Texte*]

Le président: Oui, on peut leur donner...

M. Lambert (Edmonton-Ouest): Vous recevez des informations et on peut questionner, mais...

Le président: On reprendra cet après-midi à 3 heures et demie.

Alors le vote L107b est réservé à cet après-midi, à 3 heures et demie, lors de notre prochaine réunion.

The Chairman: Vote L110b—Loans in the current and subsequent fiscal years—Vancouver International Airport—that might interest you.

Mr. Marchand (Kamloops-Cariboo): Carried!

Mr. Peddle: Mr. Chairman, as no representative from Prince Edward Island is present, I think to even the score we should ask for a similar international airport for Prince Edward Island, and we can pass this item on division, as our friend did.

Mr. Ouellet: I think your friend from P.E.I. would object to the fact that you do not consider Charlottetown to be an international airport.

Mr. Peddle: It could be. I am sure Mr. Bennett would not appreciate this attitude.

• 1205

Le président: Vous préférez que nous le réservions pour cet après-midi?

M. Lambert (Edmonton-Ouest): Vous n'avez pas le droit de l'adopter.

Le président: Je crois que nous devons à ce moment-ci, peut-être, interrompre nos délibérations, puisque même depuis que nous avons commencé l'étude de la page 26, alors qu'un membre du Comité a dû partir, nous n'avons pas quorum. Alors, nous allons ajourner à 3 heures et demie et nous essaierons de faire adopter les votes qui l'ont été à compter du moment où nous n'avions plus quorum. Et, je vais prendre ceux qui ont été réservés pour cet après-midi et je vous remercie, messieurs. Je vous verrai à 3 heures et demie.

• 1206

AFTERNOON SITTING

The Chairman: Gentlemen, we will now proceed with hearing the Minister, Mr. Chrétien, who is with us this afternoon at the request of the Committee. If you have any questions regarding his estimates, which are

[*Interprétation*]

The Chairman: Yes, we could give them...

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): You receive information and questions can be put, but...

The Chairman: We shall resume this afternoon at 3:30 p.m.

So, vote L107b is reserved until this afternoon, at 3:30 p.m., when our next meeting takes place.

Le président: Crédit L110b—Prêts, au cours de la présente année financière et des années financières subséquentes... Aéroport international de Vancouver... Voilà qui peut vous intéresser.

M. Marchand (Kamloops-Cariboo): Adopté!

M. Peddle: Monsieur le président, comme il n'y a pas de représentants de l'Île-du-Prince-Édouard, je crois que, pour égaliser le pointage, nous devrions demander un aéroport international semblable, pour l'Île-du-Prince-Édouard, et nous pourrions approuver ce crédit à la majorité des voix, comme l'a fait notre collègue.

M. Ouellet: Je crois que votre collègue de l'Île-du-Prince-Édouard n'aimerait pas le fait que vous ne considérez pas Charlottetown comme un aéroport international.

M. Peddle: Peut-être. Je suis sûr que M. Bennett n'aimerait pas cette attitude.

The Chairman: Would you prefer us to reserve this to this afternoon?

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): You can't pass it now.

The Chairman: Well, I think that we might perhaps interrupt our work now, because since we began consideration of page 26, while a member of the Committee had to leave, we have no quorum. So, we will adjourn now to 3:30 p.m. and we will try to have the votes adopted that were accepted while we no longer had a quorum. And I shall take those that have been reserved for this afternoon. Thank you, gentlemen, till 3:30 this afternoon.

SÉANCE DE L'APRÈS-MIDI

Le président: Messieurs, nous allons maintenant entendre le ministre, M. Chrétien, qui est venu ici, cet après-midi, à la demande du Comité. Si vous avez des questions à poser sur son budget, qui figure aux pages 10 et 11,

[*Text*]

shown on pages 10 and 11 under Items 5b, 20b, 30b, 35b and 36b, I request you carry on, because Mr. Chrétien has advised me that he has to take a plane. Mr. Lambert.

M. Lambert (Edmonton-Ouest): Eh bien! premièrement, je vais être le plus bref possible et j'apprécie le fait que le ministre soit venu cet après-midi, mais on nous demande ici, particulièrement en ce qui a trait au ministère des Affaires indiennes et du Nord canadien, un montant de $4,128,281 de plus. Nous avons aussi deux postes à $1, dont nous voulons connaître les détails, et il me semble que ce n'est pas du ressort de M. Cloutier de nous donner ces renseignements au nom du ministère des Affaires indiennes et du Nord canadien.

Alors, je demande une explication au sujet du premier poste, car nous voulons donner une extension à un certain crédit que nous avons accordé au mois de décembre et, en plus de cela, transférer de quelques crédits, des montants pour l'administration, l'opération et le service d'entretien du ministère. Maintenant, quelles en sont les raisons?

L'hon. Jean Chrétien (ministre des Affaires indiennes et du Nord canadien): Bien, voici, monsieur Lambert. Monsieur le président, la raison principale de l'augmentation de nos dépenses au ministère des Affaires indiennes et du Nord canadien a trait principalement à l'augmentation de la demande dans le secteur du bien-être, en général, et ce qu'on appelle le *child care*. Évidemment, c'est une rubrique sur laquelle nous pouvons exercer très peu de contrôle; cela suit, évidemment, la situation économique des Indiens en général et, parfois, les demandes peuvent excéder les prévisions.

Or, cette augmentation de $3,185,000, que réclamaient deux postes, provient du fait que nous avons eu une demande plus grande pour l'assistance sociale, pour le bien-être, et ce, pour deux raisons: une, à cause de l'augmentation des allocations d'assistance sociale dans les provinces, c'est-à-dire que nous suivons toujours la politique du gouvernement en ce qui a trait aux paiements du bien-être. Si, en général, ces taux augmentent dans une province, le ministère suit la politique du gouvernement provincial de façon à ce que les Indiens ne soient pas placés sur un pied différent, quant aux perceptions de bien-être, vis-à-vis les Blancs ou les autres personnes de la province.

Il y a eu une augmentation aussi de $242,000 pour ce que nous appelons *grant to bands*, c'est-à-dire...

It is for the purpose of helping the Indians who wish to form their own institutions, and to give them the money they need to start

[*Interpretation*]

crédits 5b, 20b, 30b, 35b et 36b, je vous prie de faire vite, car M. Chrétien me dit qu'il doit prendre l'avion. Monsieur Lambert.

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): First of all—I will do this as briefly as possible—I appreciate that the Minister has come this afternoon. We are asked here for an additional $4,128,281, with regard to the Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development. We also have two $1 votes and about which we would like to have some explanations, and it seems to us that it is not up to Mr. Cloutier to provide us with this information on behalf of the Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development.

So, I am wondering if we could have an explanation for the first vote because we want to extend a certain vote that we have assigned to the month of December and, in addition, we want to transfer from some votes certain amounts for administration, operation and maintenance of the Department. Now, what is the reason for this?

Hon. Jean Chrétien (Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development): Well, Mr. Lambert. Mr. Chairman, the main reason for the increase in the expenditures in the Department has to do mainly with the increase of claims for various needs in the welfare field, in general, and for child care. Naturally, it is an item over which we have very little control. It is due naturally, to the economic situation of the Indians in general and sometimes requests may exceed the amounts we have provided for.

Now, this increase of $3,185,000 claimed by two votes is due to the fact that we have had a greater demand for social assistance, welfare assistance, for two reasons: namely, in the first place, because of the increase in the rates of welfare assistance in the various provinces, i.e. we always follow the government's policy with regard to welfare payments. If in general, these rate increase in one province, the Department follows the policy of the provincial government so that the Indians will not be placed on a different footing with regard to welfare as compared with white people or the other people in the province.

There has also been an increase of $242,000 for what we call grants to bands, which means ...

C'est pour aider les Indiens qui veulent établir leurs propres institutions, et pour leur donner l'argent dont ils ont besoin pour les

[*Texte*]

their operations. And under that item we have had to increase the estimates by $242,000.

This is the best general explanation that I can give to you.

The Chairman: Does anyone have questions?

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton-West): Let us have it understood clearly, Mr. Chairman and Mr. Minister. I am not going to do an exhaustive study of the Department of Indian Affairs, but there are certain expenses and sums which require an explanation.

First of all, the main estimates for this year were for $101 million under Item 5. Then we have this additional amount. However, when we go to 1969-70, there is a recast of the definition of the item. It is now called a social program instead of Indian affairs, and the figures are no longer comparable because there seems to have been a complete change. Is this an internal matter with Treasury Board or is it a change in orientation of policy of the Department?

Mr. Chrétien: Mr. Lambert, you will understand why we have been obliged to do that when you consider that we have changed the pattern of the Department. A few years ago, as you know, Indian Affairs was not with Northern Affairs, and in 1966 the government decided to bring Indian Affairs in with Northern Development and form a new department.

We have re-organized the Department in order that the services that are available to the Indians be available on the same basis to the Eskimos. We make no difference within the administration now in terms of social development. That is why we changed the pattern of the Department, and now the program of welfare is not in two different spheres. It is administered for both by the same people.

Formerly we had a man who was in charge of Indian affairs. Now we have an assistant deputy minister who is in charge of social development. There is an assistant Deputy Minister who is in charge of northern economic development. We found out that in having these two departments together, we had some people working for Indian affairs doing exactly the same work that others were doing for the North. So the people we had for the North and those we had for the Indians now work for both the North and the Indians

[*Interprétation*]

faire fonctionner. Nous avons dû augmenter les crédits de $242,000. C'est la meilleure explication générale que je puis vous donner.

Le président: Y a-t-il des questions?

M. Lambert (Edmonton-Ouest): Qu'il soit bien compris, monsieur le président, et monsieur le ministre, que je ne veux pas faire une étude détaillée de l'activité du ministère des Affaires indiennes, mais il y a certaines dépenses, certaines sommes qui exigent une explication.

Premièrement, le budget principal de la présente année prévoyait $101,000,000, selon le crédit 5. Puis, nous avons ce montant supplémentaire. Mais, si nous nous reportons à 1969-1970, nous voyons une nouvelle définition du crédit: on a remplacé «Affaires indiennes» par «Programme social,» et les chiffres ne sont plus comparables, car il semble que tout a complètement changé. Est-ce qu'il s'agit tout simplement d'une question de gestion interne du Conseil du Trésor, ou d'un changement d'orientation de la politique du ministère?

M. Chrétien: Monsieur Lambert, vous allez comprendre pourquoi nous avons été forcés de le faire, si vous tenez compte du fait que nous avons modifié l'orientation du ministère. Il y a quelques années, comme vous le savez, le Nord canadien ne relevait pas des Affaires indiennes; c'est en 1966 que le gouvernement a décidé d'unir ces deux divisions pour faire un nouveau ministère.

Nous avons réorganisé le ministère pour que les services qui sont mis à la disposition des Indiens soient mis à la disposition des Esquimaux, de la même façon; nous ne faisons plus de différence, maintenant, dans l'administration, pour ce qui est du développement social. Voilà pourquoi nous avons changé les structures du ministère et, maintenant, le programme de bien-être ne se retrouve pas dans deux catégories: ce sont les mêmes personnes qui l'appliquent.

Auparavant, nous avions quelqu'un à la tête des Affaires indiennes; maintenant, nous avons un sous-ministre adjoint qui est chargé du développement social et un sous-ministre adjoint chargé du développement économique du Grand Nord. Nous avons constaté, en unissant ces deux services ensemble, que certaines personnes des Affaires indiennes faisaient exactement le même travail que d'autres, pour le Nord canadien, de sorte que, maintenant, ces personnes travaillent tant pour les Indiens que pour le Grand Nord, pour ce qui

[*Text*]

in terms of social and economic development. That is why we have been obliged to change the pattern of our estimates.

The Chairman: Mr. Thomson?

Mr. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Maybe Mr. Lambert has more along the same line.

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): Well, all right. Could you give me an assurance that neither of the $1 items in your Department are of a legislative nature?

Mr. Cloutier: The one in 20b is definitely not a legislative item.

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): That is right.

Mr. Cloutier: And the other one also is not a legislative item. This results from the requirement to list grants in the estimates. The funds are available within the vote.

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): All right. I will cede to Mr. Thomson. I want to come back to the $900,000.

• 1540

Mr. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Mr. Chairman, in reference to the extra money granted and needed for social aid, et cetera, was this peculiar to one part of the country or another because of recession or the climate in that area, or what?

Mr. Chrétien: No, it is relative to a general increase in Canada for welfare assistance for two reasons. One was because there was a bigger demand, and the other is that the main money had been for the increase in the provincial rates. So we had to follow the pattern of the provinces. And, in doing so, if the rate in Saskatchewan, for example, were going up we would follow it through. So it is something in which we really have no leeway. We have always followed that policy. I think it is a good policy, but we have to pay for it.

Mr. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Yes, I understand this. Thank you.

Mr. McCutcheon: Thank you, Mr. Chairman, I have just one question and it arises from the answer the Minister gave about the combination of Indian Affairs and Northern Affairs. I refer to page 148 of the 1969-70 estimates where we increase from the $101,201,000 in the 1968-69 estimates to $134,953,200. Would it be a fair assumption to say that there would be a reduction in say the Northern Affairs department, or have we increased this much?

[*Interpretation*]

est du développement économique et social. Voilà pourquoi nous avons dû modifier le tableau de notre budget.

Le président: Monsieur Thomson?

M. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Peut-être M. Lambert veut-il poursuivre sur le même sujet.

M. Lambert (Edmonton-Ouest): Bien. Pouvez-vous me donner l'assurance qu'aucun de vos crédits de $1 n'a un caractère législatif?

M. Cloutier: Certainement pas le crédit 20b.

M. Lambert (Edmonton-Ouest): En effet.

M. Cloutier: Et l'autre non plus. Cela résulte du fait qu'on doit donner la liste des subventions, dans le budget. Les fonds sont disponibles dans les limites du crédit.

M. Lambert (Edmonton-Ouest): Très bien. Je cède la parole à M. Thomson; je reviendrai sur les $900,000.

M. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Monsieur le président, les sommes supplémentaires affectées au développement social, etc., s'appliquent-elles à telle ou telle partie du pays seulement, compte tenu du climat économique de cette région, ou quoi?

M. Chrétien: Non, les sommes sont proportionnées à l'augmentation générale, au Canada, de l'assistance sociale, pour deux raisons. Tout d'abord, parce qu'il y a eu une demande plus forte et, deuxièmement, parce qu'on a augmenté les fonds en fonction de la hausse des taux des provinces. Nous avons donc dû imiter les provinces. Si le taux augmente en Saskatchewan, par exemple, nous devrons faire la même chose. Nous l'avons toujours fait. Je crois que c'est une bonne politique, mais nous devons en faire les frais.

M. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Je comprends. Merci.

M. McCutcheon: Merci, monsieur le président. Une question seulement découlant de la réponse donnée par le Ministre à propos de l'union des Affaires indiennes et du Nord canadien. Je reviens à la page 148 du budget de 1969-1970, où les crédits passent de $101,201,000 en 1968-1969 à $134,953,000 en 1969-1970.

Est-ce qu'il serait juste de supposer qu'il y aura une réduction dans le ministère du Nord canadien?

[*Texte*]

Mr. Chrétien: The change in the administration was mainly to have a more efficient department. The estimates in general have increased because the problem is bigger. The Indian population increases at the fastest rate in Canada, double the normal rate, and so the expenses are going up and up.

This re-organization was to make better use of the personnel, but we could not diminish the number of personnel because the burden of the department is greater every year. The new policy that was adopted in 1966 and implemented in 1968 was to have the best people—work for both Northern Affairs and for the Indians, there was a kind of competition between the two departments, and the best people we had came to the top. But in terms of expenditures, you know, the problem is still there. We have not cured the problem in doing that. We have been obliged to increase our estimates because the Indian population is higher now than it was, and we have many economic and social programs going on.

Mr. McCutcheon: I grant you that, Mr. Minister, but it makes one take a second look when the estimate is up by a third.

Mr. Chrétien: No. You have to take the total of the estimate. As you know, we have changed the organization within the department. In respect of social programs you do not have only the Indians, you have the Eskimos and the metis who live in the territory.

Economic development is the same. You do not have economic development only for the Indians. You have economic development for Indians below the 60th parallel and all the economic development of the north in the same vote. That is why you have this increase. But the total of the increase on social programs is the difference between $154 million and $175 million, and on economic development for both Indians and the North between $55 million and $67 million.

Mr. McCutcheon: Thank you.

Mr. Chrétien: I wish I had more.

Mr. McCutcheon: You need more.

Mr. Chrétien: We have a lot of problems. We need money.

The Chairman: I suppose all the ministers need more.

[*Interprétation*]

M. Chrétien: Le changement apporté à l'administration a été fait pour augmenter l'efficacité du ministère. Les crédits en général ont augmenté parce que les problèmes sont plus considérables. La population indienne, a le taux de natalité le plus élevé du Canada. De sorte que les dépenses augmentent constamment.

Cette réorganisation avait pour but de tirer un meilleur parti du personnel. Mais on ne peut pas diminuer le personnel parce que le travail du ministère augmente constamment. La nouvelle politique adoptée en 1966 et mise en vigueur en 1968, visait à mettre les mêmes personnes au travail pour les affaires Indiennes et pour le Nord canadien, car il y avait une concurrence entre les deux ministères, de sorte que la crème du personnel a obtenu les postes supérieurs. Mais, pour ce qui est des dépenses, le problème existe toujours. Voilà pourquoi nous avons dû augmenter nos crédits, parce que la population indienne augmente toujours; nous avons lancé beaucoup de programmes d'ordre social et économique.

M. McCutcheon: Je le concède, monsieur le ministre, mais on réexamine les choses de près lorsqu'on constate que les crédits ont augmenté d'un tiers.

M. Chrétien: Non. Il faut prendre le total des crédits. Comme vous le savez nous avons modifié l'administration interne du ministère. Dans les programmes sociaux il n'y a pas que les Indiens, vous avez les Esquimaux et les métis qui en bénéficient.

Pour le développement économique, c'est la même chose. Vous n'avez pas seulement le développement économique concernant les Indiens, mais le développement économique des Indiens en deçà du 60ième parallèle et tout le développement économique du nord dans le même crédit. Voilà pourquoi vous avez cette augmentation. Mais l'augmentation totale pour les programmes sociaux est l'écart entre $154,000,000 et $175,000,000, et pour le développement économique des Indiens et du Nord, entre $55,000,000 et $67,000,000.

M. McCutcheon: Merci.

M. Chrétien: Je voudrais en avoir davantage.

M. McCutcheon: Vous avez besoin davantage?

M. Chrétien: Nous avons beaucoup de problèmes. Il nous faut de l'argent.

Le président: Je suppose que c'est le cas de tous les ministres.

[*Text*]

Mr. Paproski: Do you have anywhere in your estimates an allocation of funds for the possible take-over from the Province of Alberta of Wood Buffalo National Park.

• 1545

Mr. Chrétien: In respect of this proposition, I do not know who should pay. But it is not solved yet.

Mr. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Mr. Chairman, I and others commented earlier on these $1 estimates, and I would like to do so again.

I suggest that as each minister, including yourself, are all fight for an appropriation of money, when you set up your estimates you always set them higher, as a result of which you sometimes end up—in your case you have not, you wanted more money in a supplementary—with more money than you need. Then you transfer this excess money to another program. I suggest that you say, "Well good, we have $2 million, we will do this and this and this rather than turn the money back into the treasury". What I am suggesting is that you make your estimates much higher in the first place so that, in fighting for your share of the money, you are sure to get it. Am I correct in my assumption?

Mr. Chrétien: You should ask that question to the President of the Treasury Board who deals with all the ministers. You know, I have only my little problem.

Mr. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): I should have asked you when he was not here.

Speaking again on this particular item—and I am not referrring to you particularly—I noticed a great many $1 items. This disturbs me a little bit because I feel that this money should be turned back into the Treasury—a good deal of it anyway—and that you should then fight for a new appropriation rather than say, "Good, we have $3 million left over, we will spend it." I am beginning to wonder about this.

Mr. Chrétien: Yes, but I must tell you that I have not faced a situation yet where I have had too much money in one item and I would like to transfer to another item.

Mr. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): If you look through these you will find quite a few $1 items.

Mr. Chrétien: Oh yes, but it is not because I have too much money—because I have been obliged to cut elsewhere.

M. Lambert (Edmonton-Ouest): Justement, à ce sujet, je voudrais attirer votre attention au poste n° 5b. Vous votez 2 millions 200

[*Interpretation*]

M. Paproski: Avez-vous prévu des fonds pour la possibilité de prendre en main le Buffalo Wood National Park dans la province de l'Alberta?

M. Chrétien: Au sujet de ce problème, je ne sais pas qui devrait payer. Mais le problème n'est pas résolu.

M. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Tout à l'heure, j'ai fait une remarque, et d'autres également, à propos de ces crédits d'un dollar. J'estime que chacun des ministres, et vous compris, se font concurrence pour obtenir de l'argent lorsqu'ils préparent leurs crédits; vous les établissez toujours au-dessus de vos besoins, de sorte que parfois, ce n'est pas votre cas, puisque vous voudriez des crédits supplémentaires, mais parfois vous obtenez plus qu'il en faut. Dans certains cas, vous transférez ces fonds excédentaires à un autre programme.

Vous vous dites probablement: «Nous avons 2 millions de dollars ici. Nous allons donc faire ceci et cela au lieu de les remettre à l'État. Ce à quoi je veux en venir c'est que vous demandez plus qu'il vous faut afin d'obtenir votre part. Est-ce exact?

M. Chrétien: Vous devriez poser cette question au président du Conseil du Trésor qui traite avec les ministres. Je ne m'occupe que de mes petits problèmes.

M. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): J'aurais dû vous le demander en son absence.

Mais, à propos de ce crédit, je ne parle pas de vous en particulier, mais je sais que nous retrouvons dans ce fascicule un grand nombre de crédits d'un dollar. En fait, j'estime que cet argent devrait être rétrocédé au Trésor, une forte partie, en tout cas et vous devriez de nouveau demander des fonds au lieu de faire ces transferts. Je commence à m'inquiéter à ce sujet.

M. Chrétien: Oui, mais je dois vous dire que je ne me suis jamais trouvé avec trop d'argent à un poste que j'aurais voulu transférer à un autre.

M. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Si vous examinez vos propres prévisions, vous trouverez beaucoup de crédits d'un dollar.

M. Chrétien: Ce n'est pas parce que j'avais trop d'argent. C'est parce que j'ai dû le prélever ailleurs.

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): Precisely on that subject, I would like to draw your attention to vote 5b. You are asking for $2,-

[*Texte*]

mille dollars pour les Indiens, et vous les appliquez à un programme pour la construction de nouveaux parcs nationaux dans les provinces atlantiques. Pour ma part, j'estime que ces deux objectifs sont très éloignés l'un de l'autre et, présentement, je partage les inquiétudes de M. Thomson. J'en ai fait part à M. Drury et nous reviendrons sur ce sujet, à savoir que, par cette nouvelle politique d'emprunter de Pierre pour payer Paul, je me demande si nous ne sommes pas en train de créer une vache à lait dans chaque ministère?

M. Chrétien: Monsieur Lambert, au sujet de l'argent que nous avons pris aux programmes des parcs nationaux pour l'appliquer au programme des Indiens, je dois vous dire que ceci est dû au fait que nous avons eu des augmentations considérables dans le domaine du bien-être social.

M. Lambert (Edmonton-Ouest): Ah, écoutez! Je ne discute pas cela du tout. Mais le fait est que vous avez demandé de l'argent et qu'on vous en a accordé pour vos parcs nationaux, le Parlement vous en a accordé car c'est lui qui vous accorde cet argent-là. Et maintenant, vous dites, quelques mois plus tard, car vous aviez déjà commencé à dépenser de l'argent pour le bien-être, vous dites: «Eh bien, nous allons puiser à même les crédits du service des parcs nationaux et nous allons dépenser cela».

M. Chrétien: Non, mais c'est cela, nous demandons, par ce budget supplémentaire, l'autorisation du Parlement de transférer cet argent d'un secteur à un autre.

Mais je trouve que l'argument soulevé par M. Thomson présuppose une procédure différente pour obtenir le même résultat. Comme je l'ai dit tantôt, et je le répète, vous aurez le privilège d'entendre le président du Conseil du Trésor, et nous pourrons nous expliquer.

M. Lambert (Edmonton-Ouest): Alors, pourrais-je poser ma dernière question, elle concerne le crédit n° 30b. Vous voulez ajouter un nouveau montant de $900,000 à la somme de $4 millions qu'on vous a accordée au mois de décembre sous le crédit n° 30.

Et, justement, en quoi consiste ce développement dans les subventions d'aide à l'expansion des ressources minières du Nord?

M. Chrétien: Voici, monsieur Lambert. Ce programme, que vous connaissez probablement très bien, en est un d'aide à l'industrie minière afin de l'aider à exploiter les ressources du Nord. Et, lorsqu'une industrie fait de l'expansion, des travaux, de façon à trouver

[*Interprétation*]

200,000 for the Indians, and you assign this money to a program for the development of new national parks in the Atlantic provinces. In so far as I am concerned, I am of the opinion that these two objectives are very far apart from each other and, at the present time, I share Mr. Thomson's concern.

I mentioned this to Mr. Drury and we shall deal with this subject again, namely that through this new policy of borrowing from Peter to pay Paul, I wonder whether we are not busy creating a milk-cow in each Department?

Mr. Chrétien: Mr. Lambert, regarding the money we took from the national parks programs to affect to the Indian program, I must say that this is due to the fact that we had a considerable increase in the field of social welfare.

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): I am not discussing that at all. But the fact is that you requested funds and that we granted them to you for your national parks—it is Parliament which granted you this money. And now, a few months later—because you had already started to spending money on welfare—you come and tell us that you will draw money from the national parks service votes in order to spend it.

Mr. Chrétien: No, but we ask through these supplementary estimates, for authorization from Parliament to transfer those amounts from one sector to another.

But, I find that the argument raised by Mr. Thomson presupposes a different procedure in order to obtain the same results. As I was saying a little while ago, and I repeat it, you will have the privilege of hearing the Chairman of the Treasury Board, and you will be able to ask for explanations. My final question deals with vote 30b.

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): You want to add a new amount of $900,000 to the $4 million that you were granted in December under vote 30.

What is the nature of this development in the grants towards assisting in the development of mineral resources in the North?

Mr. Chrétien: As you are probably fully aware, Mr. Lambert, this program is to assist the mining industry to help it develop the resources in the northern areas. And when a particular industry develops or carries out work to find new resources in the North, we

[*Text*]

de nouvelles ressources dans le Nord, nous sommes obligés de par la Loi d'y contribuer jusqu'à un certain pourcentage, je pense que c'est le tiers si je me rappelle bien.

Malheureusement ou heureusement, ça dépend du point de vue où on se place, c'est qu'il y a eu tellement de recherches et d'activités, que nous avons été obligés de fournir notre part qui a excédé le montant prévu parce qu'il y a trop d'activités dans le Nord présentement. Ceci est peut-être dû au fait que nous faisons une trop bonne publicité et que nous sommes trop actifs. Je ne sais pas mais de toute façon, cela a coûté $900,000 dollars de plus à cause du travail qui avait été fait auparavant, dans tous ces programmes.

M. Lambert (Edmonton-Ouest): Dans ce secteur minier, comprenez-vous l'huile et le pétrole?

M. Chrétien: Je ne pense pas que cela...

M. Lambert (Edmonton-Ouest): C'est parce que c'est là que vous avez beaucoup d'activités.

M. Chrétien: Dans le nord, nous avons beaucoup d'activités, particulièrement au Yukon, dans le secteur minier. En ce qui a trait à l'huile, ce n'est pas exactement la même politique.

Le président: Cela comprend-il la prospection, monsieur le ministre? Vous aidez les prospecteurs d'une façon ou d'une autre pour le développement du Nord, alors, le montant que vous dépensez à cet effet, est-il inclus dans ce total?

M. Chrétien: J'aimerais mieux réserver ma question, je ne suis pas certain de cela. Malheureusement je n'ai pas toute ma documentation sous la main, je n'ai appris qu'à la toute dernière minute que je venais, je ne peux pas vous dire si précisément il y a de la prospection. Mais ce sont certainement des capitaux qui sont mis à la dispostion de l'industrie minière pour les aider à exploiter les ressources minières des Territoires du Nord-Ouest et du Yukon.

M. Lambert (Edmonton-Ouest): Merci bien.

Le président: Monsieur Paproski, monsieur Gundlock.

Mr. Gundlock: I have one short question, Mr. Chairman. As a result of the meeting in Alberta, of which I am quite sure the Minister is aware, and at which his representative, I may say, conducted himself very well, I think they elected six to come to Ottawa for the conference. It is my understanding that now they are asking only three and this is

[*Interpretation*]

are obliged under the Act to provide assistance up to a certain percentage, one third, if I remember correctly.

Unfortunately or fortunately, it depends where you stand, there has been so much research, so much activity, that we have been obliged to give our share which exceeded the amount provided because, at the present time, there is too much activity in the North. This is perhaps due to the fact that our promotion is too successful and that we are too active. I am not sure, but anyhow, this has cost an additional $900,000 because of the work that had been done previously in all these programs.

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): In the mining sector, do you include oil and petroleum?

Mr. Chrétien: No, I do not think so...

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): Because that is where a lot of activity is going on.

Mr. Chrétien: In the North, we have a lot of activity, especially in the Yukon, in the mining sector. With regard to oil, it is not quite the same policy.

The Chairman: Does that include prospecting, sir? You assist prospectors in one way or another to develop the North, and is this amount included in this total?

Mr. Chrétien: I would rather reserve that question, as I am not quite sure. Unfortunately, I do not have all my information on hand. I learned only a few minutes before coming here that you expected me, so I cannot tell exactly whether prospecting is included. But this is definitely capital that is placed at the disposal of the mining industry to assist them in developing mineral resources in the North-West Territories and Yukon.

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): Thank you very much.

The Chairman: Mr. Paproski, and Mr. Gundlock.

M. Gundlock: Une toute petite question, monsieur le président. A la suite de la réunion en Alberta, dont le ministre est sûrement au courant, et à laquelle son représentant s'est très bien débrouillé, ils avaient désigné six personnes pour venir à Ottawa pour assister à la conférence. Si je comprends bien, on n'en invite plus que trois, ce qui

[*Texte*]

creating some little problem there. Even in Alberta, of which I am quite sure the Minis- not have six representatives? I ask the question of the Minister.

Mr. Chrétien: Yes, Mr. Gundlock, it is a problem, and I understand the situation very well. It is a problem that faces us in most of these consultations.

We asked the Indians to elect so many representatives from each province. We had set a pattern previously, and I have in mind an instance of a consultation at which they were allowed to have one representative in Ottawa. They decided to elect five, and I was obliged to tell them that unfortunately the pattern had been set in advance and that they could have only one representative there.

As you know, if we have too many representatives at the meeting we are having in Ottawa in April it will be very difficult to have the kind of meeting we want if there is an audience of 50, or 55, or 60. Therefore, we have decided on a certain pattern of representation which is seven for all the Indians of Ontario; seven for all the Indians in B.C.; four of the Indians of Alberta; and four for the Indians of Saskatchewan and Manitoba. It is based strictly on population.

In B.C. they have had five different meetings, and we have permitted them to have

• 1555

only seven; so for most of these consultations they will have only one representative. That is the pattern we have, set and I do not see how I can change it for one province and not for the others. That is the problem I face.

However, I have sent them a report and the Indians of Alberta will have to ask someone not to be there.

As you know, they have been through that process in many of the consultations in B.C. and they have settled it among themselves in order to abide by the rules.

Mr. Gundlock: I know you have to set a rule, and it may be by population, but I am not talking about population. I am talking about nations. Where there are six nations and six languages, how will that fit into the rules?

Mr. Chrétien: To give you an example, when I was in Terrace, B.C., in the Skeena riding, I was told that in that riding there were six different dialects. In B.C. perhaps there are 12 or 15. Len Marchand tells me there are 34. They will have only five representatives in Ottawa, or seven; I am not sure; I am speaking from memory. It is quite a complex problem

[*Interprétation*]

pose maintenant des problèmes. Il existe six langues en Alberta. Est-ce qu'ils ne devraient pas avoir six représentants?

M. Chrétien: Oui, monsieur Gundlock, c'est un problème et je comprends très bien la situation. C'est le problème qui se pose à nous dans presque toutes ces consultations.

Nous avons demandé aux Indiens de désigner tant de représentants par province. Nous avions établi une procédure, et je pense à une autre consultation où ils n'avaient droit qu'à un représentant à Ottawa. Ils ont décidé d'en désigner cinq. Nous avons dû leur dire de n'en désigner qu'un seul parce que la procédure était déjà établie.

Si la réunion que nous aurons à Ottawa, en avril, comprenait trop de représentants, il serait très difficile d'avoir le genre de réunion que nous voulons si l'on est en présence de 50, 60 ou 70 personnes. Voilà pourquoi nous avons décidé qu'il y aurait sept représentants pour les Indiens de l'Ontario; sept pour ceux de Colombie-Britannique; quatre pour l'Alberta; et quatre pour ceux du Manitoba et de la Saskatchewan strictement calculé d'après la population.

En Colombie-Britannique, il y a eu cinq réunions différentes et nous ne leur avons accordé que sept représentants, de sorte que la plupart de ces consultations n'auront qu'un représentant. C'est la procédure que nous avons adoptée. Je ne sais pas comment je pourrais la changer pour une province et pas pour les autres. C'est le problème qui se pose. J'ai envoyé un rapport aux Indiens de l'Alberta et ils devront demander à quelqu'un de ne pas se rendre. Comme vous le savez, la même chose s'est présentée dans bien des consultations en Colombie-Britannique et ils ont dû régler le problème entre eux, et s'en tenir au Règlement.

M. Gundlock: Je sais que vous avez établi une règle de représentation selon la population. Mais je ne parle pas de la population, je parle des nations. Lorsqu'il y a six nations et six langues, comment est-ce que cela cadre avec le Règlement?

M. Chrétien: Je vais vous donner un exemple: lorsque j'étais en Colombie-Britannique, on m'a dit que dans cette circonscription il existe six dialectes différents. En Colombie-Britannique, il y a 12 ou 15 dialectes différents. M. Len Marchand me dit qu'il y en a 34. Nous avons autorisé que cinq ou sept représentants, au fait, je ne suis plus très sûr. Ma mémoire me fait défaut. C'est un problème très complexe.

[*Text*]

Mr. Gundlock: I am not talking about ridings. I am talking about nations and dialects.

Mr. Chrétien: Yes; but within a riding the same situation exists. When we were in Skeena the northern B.C. Indians decided to send four or five representatives because of that kind of problem, and we were obliged to tell them that we would accept one from their district. They got together and decided to send one, whose name I forget.

Mr. Gundlock: What will be the position, then? At that meeting with your representative they were duly elected and accepted. Now they learn that only half of them are going to go. What will the other half have to say about that?

Mr. Chrétien: I think they should meet together and discuss the situation.

At a meeting of the Indians of Alberta they decided to elect six, and in another place they decided to elect five, but they knew previously that only four would be accepted in Ottawa. That is the rule. Perhaps I can change it, but I do not intend to do so, because if I start with Alberta I would be obliged to do the same thing in B.C.

Mr. Gundlock: I appreciate that. Are you going to do anything about the three, or not?

Mr. Chrétien: I made the statement in the House of Commons that we were going to proceed with the Indian Claims Commission. We had some consultation with the Indians, and as late as December I was receiving all sorts of representations from the Indians. A new suggestion was made to me, that I bring it back into the Committee, and we are studying the legal implications. But it is a very very complex problem, as you can understand.

Mr. Gundlock: Are the discussions going on..

Mr. Chrétien: Yes; the discussion is still going on in the Cabinet.

The Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Chrétien. It was very nice of you to come and give some explanations to the Committee. I think we can let the Minister go for the time being.

There are two other ministers here, and we do not want to delay them either. Perhaps we can come back to the passing of the individual items. Would you agree to that procedure?

[*Interpretation*]

M. Gundlock: Excusez-moi de vous interrompre, je ne parle pas de circonscription, je parle des nations, des dialectes.

M. Chrétien: Oui, mais dans les circonscriptions, vous avez la même situation. Lorsque nous étions à Skeena, les Indiens du Nord de la Colombie-Britannique ont décidé d'envoyer quatre ou cinq représentants à cause du même problème, et on a été obligé de leur dire que nous n'accepterions qu'un seul représentant de leur région. Ils se sont donc réunis pour désigner un représentant.

M. Gundlock: Alors, quelle est donc la situation? Dans cette réunion avec votre représentant, ils ont été nommés et acceptés, et ils apprennent ensuite que seulement la moitié d'entre eux pourront venir. Que vont dire les autres?

M. Chrétien: Qu'ils se réunissent et discutent de la situation. Lors d'une réunion des Indiens, en Alberta, ils ont décidé d'en nommer six, tout comme à un autre endroit ils ont décidé d'en désigner cinq, mais ils savaient à l'avance que nous n'en accepterions que quatre à Ottawa. C'est une règle, qui peut être changée, mais je n'ai pas l'intention de le faire parce que si on la change pour l'Alberta, il faudra la changer pour la Colombie-Britannique.

M. Gundlock: Je me rends compte que la situation est délicate. Mais qu'est-ce que vous faites à propos des trois représentants désignés?

M. Chrétien: J'ai déclaré à la Chambre des communes que nous allions instituer cette Commission des revendications indiennes. Après consultations avec les Indiens, jusqu'en décembre, j'ai reçu des tas de communications de la part des Indiens. On m'a de nouveau demandé de le soumettre au Comité, et nous en étudions les aspects juridiques. C'est un problème très, très complexe.

M. Gundlock: Est-ce que les discussions...

M. Chrétien: Oui, les discussions se poursuivent au sein du Cabinet.

Le président: Merci, monsieur le ministre d'être venu nous donner ces explications. Je crois que nous pouvons laisser partir le ministre.

Nous avons deux autres ministres parmi nous que nous ne voulons pas retenir trop longtemps. Nous pouvons revenir plus tard à l'adoption des crédits des Affaires indiennes. Êtes-vous d'accord pour procéder ainsi?

[*Texte*]

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

The Chairman: I am at a loss to know which to call first—Mr. Drury or Mr. Hellyer.

The hon. Paul Hellyer (Minister of Transport): Do you have a question for me?

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): Yes I do, Mr. Hellyer, relative to the ensemble of your estimates now that we have gone through them. May I suggest, Mr. Chairman, that they flip a coin?

• 1600

Mr. Hellyer: I think Mr. Drury has to get back to the House.

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): All right; I will ask Mr. Drury.

The Chairman: Mr. Lambert?

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): My question relates to the $1 items. I opened it up with Mr. Drury the other day, but at that time we did not know precisely the number we had. I now find that there are eight $1 statutory items, three outside the loan section and five within the loan section.

Would Mr. Drury please tell us why this was done? Why is this attempt being made to change the statute by these $1 items?

The Chairman: Suppose we take Vote 12b on page 12 as an example, I think, of what you are trying to point out.

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): We are not objecting to the ultimate purpose, Mr. Minister. This we fully understand. Mr. Cloutier gave us the details of the objective, but why proceed this way? Why not properly amend the Cape Breton Development Corporation Act to put it on a statutory basis and not have this sort of business sitting back in the weeds? For anyone who looks at the Act this is not within the terms of the Act. Anyone looking at the Act next year will not see it within the terms of the Act. We would have to refer them back to a $1 item in a Supplementary Estimate in 1969.

Hon. Charles Mills Drury (President of the Treasury Board): I suggest, Mr. Chairman, this is an alternative way of proceeding, namely to propose an amendment which would be a very short amendment to the Government Employees Compensation Act—this would be the Act that would be amended, not the Cape Breton Development Corporation Act—to extend it to cover just this one additional category, and if I remember the Act correctly this would mean an addition of one line in the schedule.

[*Interprétation*]

Des voix: Oui.

Le président: Qui va commencer, M. Drury ou M. Hellyer?

L'hon. Paul Hellyer (ministre des Transports): Vous avez une question pour moi?

M. Lambert (Edmonton-Ouest): Oui, j'ai des questions à vous poser monsieur Hellyer, sur l'ensemble de vos crédits, maintenant que nous avons pu y jeter un coup d'œil. Je propose, monsieur le président, qu'on joue à pile ou face.

M. Hellyer: Je crois que M. Drury doit retourner à la Chambre.

M. Lambert (Edmonton-Ouest): Très bien, je vais demander à M. Drury.

Le président: Monsieur Lambert.

M. Lambert (Edmonton-Ouest): Ma question porte sur les crédits de $1.00. J'ai posé une question à ce sujet à M. Drury l'autre jour, mais à ce moment-là, je ne savais pas qu'il y en aurait tellement. Je constate maintenant qu'il y a huit crédits d'un dollar, trois en dehors de la section des prêts, et cinq dans la catégorie des prêts.

M. Drury pourrait-il nous dire pourquoi on procède de cette façon, pourquoi on cherche à changer la loi par ces crédits de $1?

Le président: Prenons comme exemple de ce que nous voulons savoir, le crédit 12b à la page 12.

M. Lambert (Edmonton-Ouest): Monsieur le ministre, nous ne refutons pas le but définitif. Nous comprenons parfaitement. M. Cloutier nous a défini le but, mais pourquoi procéder de cette façon-là? Pourquoi ne pas modifier, comme il le convient, la Loi sur la société de développement du Cap-Breton, pour faire la chose légalement et non pas procéder de cette façon. Quiconque examine la Loi constate que ceci ne relève pas des dispositions de la Loi. Quiconque examinera la Loi l'année prochaine verra que ces dispositions n'y figurent pas. Il faudra se reporter à ce crédit de $1. du budget supplémentaire des dépenses de 1969.

L'honorable Charles Mills Drury (Président du Conseil du trésor): Monsieur le président, c'est une autre façon de procéder, savoir, proposer une modification, qui serait une modification très courte, de la Loi concernant l'indemnisation des employés de l'État. Il faudrait qu'elle puisse s'appliquer à cette catégorie supplémentaire et si je me rappelle bien, tout ceci ne comporterait qu'une ligne dans l'annexe de la Loi.

[*Text*]

I would agree wholeheartedly, and it is the general practice that where one is changing either the principle, direction or even philosophy of a particular statute, the appropriate way to do it is by a special bill. However, these instances by and large are what we may call minor amendments to the Act which have merely the effect of extending the philosophy, the currency, the ambit of it.

The easiest example might well be using this method of amending the Act in relation to extending it for one year. This can be done through the normal procedure of introducing a special one-line bill or doing it on a consolidated basis, giving effect to all the programs in the Supplementary Estimates.

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): I have realized that it is possible this way and I am not familiar with the terms of the Compensation Act. There might be power within the regulations. Mr. Cloutier says there is not; obviously that closes it off.

Mr. Drury: If there were powers in the regulations, there would not be a $1 item here.

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): The only thing with regard to this is that although I realize there is an alternative, this, I suggest to you, is the poor way from the parliamentary side and from the public's point of view. Administratively it may be a little slicker, and that is all I can say for it.

• 1605

Mr. Drury: Administratively it is undoubtedly easier and I think probably from the parliamentary point of view, given the pressure there is on parliamentary time to handle large issues in the form of bills, it perhaps would not add greatly to the effectiveness of parliament to have another eight not really very consequential pieces of legislation, the sole purpose of which was to extend the Government Employees Compensation Act to cover a particular group of people suffering from diseases which are, in other circumstances, open to claims for compensation, but because these people did not happen to be, at the time they contracted the disease, in the employ of the federal government as they now are, they do not qualify.

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): All right, then. We can go...

Mr. Drury: I would agree with the general principle that where the purpose is to amend a piece of legislation in a substantive way the proper technique, the proper means of approaching it is, through the standard introduction of a bill, even though this is, in a

[*Interpretation*]

Je conviens, et c'est la règle générale, que lorsqu'on change le principe ou l'esprit d'une loi, la façon de le faire est de présenter un bill spécial. Cependant, ceci porte sur des modifications mineures de la loi qui n'ont pour effet que d'élargir l'esprit de la Loi, et d'étendre sa portée.

L'exemple le plus simple pourrait bien être d'utiliser cette méthode de modification de la Loi, en ce qui concerne l'extension pour un an. Ceci peut se faire par la voie normale qui consiste à présenter un Bill ne comportant qu'une ligne ou bien en regroupant tout, pour entériner tous les programmes du budget supplémentaire.

M. Lambert (Edmonton-Ouest): Je me rends compte que c'est possible, je ne suis pas familier des termes de cette Loi sur l'indemnisation. Peut-être y a-t-il une possibilité dans le cadre des règlements. M. Cloutier dit que non, cela clôt le débat.

M. Drury: S'il y avait des possibilités dans le cadre des règlements, on n'aurait pas ce crédit d'un dollar.

M. Lambert (Edmonton-Ouest): Ceci, du point de vue parlementaire et du point de vue du public, c'est une façon bien drôle de procéder. C'est peut-être adroit sur le plan administratif, mais c'est tout ce que je peux en dire.

M. Drury: Sur le plan administratif, c'est beaucoup plus facile sans doute. Du point de vue parlementaire, étant donné la pression qui existe et le peu de temps que l'on a à consacrer aux bills très importants, on ne servirait pas les intérêts du Parlement de le saisir de 8 petits bills supplémentaires seulement pour modifier, comme il est question ici, la Loi concrenant l'indemnisation des employés de l'État pour qu'elle s'applique à un groupe particulier de gens souffrant de maladies qui, en d'autres circonstances, seraient couvertes par l'indemnisation, mais qui ne le sont pas parce que ces gens n'étaient pas au service du gouvernement lorsqu'ils ont contracté leur maladie, alors qu'ils le sont maintenant.

M. Lambert (Edmonton-Ouest): Mais je suis d'accord avec le principe général.

M. Drury: Je suis d'accord en principe que lorsqu'on veut modifier le fond d'une loi de façon notable, il convient de présenter un bill. Même si ceci constitue, en un sens, le préliminaire d'un bill, avec trois lectures, étude par le comité, etc.

[*Texte*]

sense, the preliminary to a bill with three readings and committee study and the rest of it.

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): This becomes a great temptation, Mr. Minister and I think it is a salami process. You just slice away more and more every time and we see quite a concentration of it here—far more than we ever have in the past—and I am very mindful of the time when your colleague Mr. Hellyer was in the Opposition and I have seen in the twelve years I have been here that $1 items used to draw down the wrath of God. I am just wondering just how it is that they have become, shall we say, legitimate and honest now when put into practice by the administration of which you are a member.

Mr. Drury: Mr. Chairman, I think Mr. Lambert has a valid point, certainly, and we have been looking during the current year at the total operations of Parliament. Because in the past there has been objection to amending statutes by $1 items in the Estimates, given the size of the legislative burden, perhaps some of it can be better handled in this way.

It is quite clear that attempts at slickness, or any kind of shell game to which reference was made the other day would be rather difficult with this kind of committee around, and that is good. Given this Committee, I do not think the public or Parliament need be afraid that tricks are going to be pulled through inadvertence or because nobody notices.

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): There is another thing, though. There is nothing that would prevent this practice growing, particularly now that you have imposed a guillotine on the deliberations of the Committee. There is the Order put forward by the government House Leader and carried by the House that imposes the guillotine on the study of the Estimates in this Committee, and they have also imposed a guillotine for next week when they go back to the House. There are all sorts of things. This is a bad habit. You could get yourself into a terribly bad habit. This is the one thing that now I want to try to nip in the bud—without the pun!

Mr. Drury: No pun intended?

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): You see, you have it in Manpower and Immigration; you have some in Regional Development and then we want to get to Mr. Hellyer. He has quite a housing program lined up in four loan items, which in the past as far as I can remember have always been amendments to the National Housing Act. Yet, here where we

[*Interprétation*]

M. Lambert (Edmonton-Ouest): C'est tentant, M. le ministre, c'est un peu comme le principe du saucisson, vous coupez de plus en plus de tranches et vous les accumulez, vous en avez de plus en plus. Je me souviens très bien du temps où votre collègue, M. Hellyer, se trouvait dans l'opposition et j'ai vu depuis douze ans que je suis ici, combien ces crédits de $1 ont pû engendrer de colères. Je me demande comment il se fait que ces crédits de un dollar soient devenus légitimes et honnêtes maintenant qu'ils sont mis en pratique par l'administration dont vous êtes un des tenants.

M. Drury: Monsieur le président, je pense que Monsieur Lambert, a soulevé un point intéressant, certainement, nous avons examiné cette année, l'administration générale du Parlement. Car dans le passé on s'est opposé à modifier les statuts par des crédits d'un dollar dans le budget. Étant donné le volume du programme législatif nous avons pensé qu'il valait mieux modifier certaines dispositions législatives de cette façon.

Mais étant donné l'acuité dont vous faites preuve en ce comité, il sera difficile de procéder constamment de cette façon. Et je trouve cela encourageant. Avec un tel comité, je ne pense pas que le public ou le Parlement ait des raisons d'avoir peur qu'on lui joue des tours qui passeraient inaperçus.

M. Lambert (Edmonton-Ouest): Cependant, il y a autre chose. Rien ne peut empêcher cette pratique de se généraliser, surtout maintenant que vous avez soumis les délibérations du Comité à la guillotine. L'ordre décrété par le leader du gouvernement, à la Chambre et entériné par celle-ci équivaut à une sorte de guillotine sur l'étude du budget par ce comité; la discussion sera également soumise à la guillotine lorsque le budget sera à l'étude à la Chambre la semaine prochaine. C'est une très mauvaise habitude. Vous vous enfermez dans une mauvaise habitude, c'est une chose que je veux étouffer dans l'œuf.

M. Drury: Sans jeu de mot?

M. Lambert (Edmonton-Ouest): Voyez-vous, cela se produit à la main-d'œuvre et à l'Immigration, à l'aménagement rural, et maintenant M. Hellyer a tout un programme du logement avec quatre postes de prêts. Autrefois, si je me souviens bien, ces prêts ont toujours été faits par une modification de la Loi nationale sur l'habitation. Maintenant,

[*Text*]

are in the important field of housing, which is one of the burning issues today, we are going to consider increasing certain provision of the National Housing Act under a guillotine and this, Mr. Minister, is just not acceptable. Now, I have said my piece.

Mr. McCutcheon: I have one very brief comment and a request of the Minister. This Committee on Miscellaneous Estimates has been, I would say, in limbo for the past six weeks and suddenly this week we are called upon to sit from 9.30 in the morning until 6 o'clock in the afternoon and we have Tuesday, Wednesday afternoon and today.

• 1610

I do not know who to blame for this but this material, in my humble opinion, should have been before this Committee several days sooner—yes; even weeks—so that we could have made some study of it. I sympathize with what Mr. Lambert is bringing out, having regard particularly, Mr. Minister, to this very, very brief time limit that is imposed upon us.

Mr. Drury: Mr. Chairman, the final Supplementary Estimates always pose a timing problem. They should be put together at the last possible moment because these are final estimates and the closer you get to the terminal date of the fiscal year the more accurate, the more complete, the estimates are going to be. Therefore, this has to be left until as late as possible.

On the other hand, they have to be passed before the end of the fiscal year and these two things are compressed—in respect to final supplementary estimates—into quite a narrow, restricted time frame-work, and while it might be suggested they should have been in the hands of the Committee weeks ago the fact of the matter is they could not be prepared weeks ago. I would hope in respect of the business of this Committee in future they could plan their work so that it will be perhaps a little less intensive. I understand there is some legislation that is coming before us and a number of the main estimates have been referred to us, so there is a fairly full budget and in respect to that there is a time limit as well. Leisure seems to have disappeared from our procedures.

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): The estimate was May 31, Mr. Minister.

Mr. Drury: With the Easter recess looming up it is surprising how quickly May 31 will come.

[*Interpretation*]

nous voilà dans l'important domaine du logement, étant donné l'actualité de ce sujet, nous devons examiner certaines dispositions de cette loi, sous la menace de la guillotine et ceci, monsieur le ministre, est absolument inacceptable. Maintenant, j'ai dit ce que j'avais à dire.

M. McCutcheon: J'ai seulement une très brève remarque et une demande du ministre. Ce comité des prévisions budgétaires a été dans l'incertitude pendant six semaines et tout d'un coup, cette semaine on nous demande de siéger de 9½ heures du matin à 6 heures de l'après-midi, nous avons eu des séances mardi, mercredi après-midi et aujourd'hui. Je ne sais pas qui je dois blâmer, mais le comité aurait dû être saisi de ceci plusieurs jours plus tôt, si ce n'est plusieurs semaines, pour que l'on aie eu le temps de l'étudier. Je suis d'accord avec M. Lambert, surtout en ce qui concerne, monsieur le ministre, cette limite de temps.

M. Drury: Monsieur le président, ce budget supplémentaire pose toujours un problème de temps. Il doit être établi à la dernière minute, parce qu'il est définitif et plus vous vous approchez de la fin de l'année fiscale, plus le budget doit être exact et complet. C'est pourquoi il faut attendre le dernier moment.

Mais par ailleurs, ils doivent être adoptés avant la fin de l'année financière. Et ces deux choses sont comprimées—en ce qui concerne le budget supplémentaire final—dans des limites de temps très strictes et réduites. On pourrait dire que le Comité aurait dû en être saisi il y a des semaines, mais, en fait, il était impossible de les préparer il y a des semaines. J'espère qu'à l'avenir le Comité pourra organiser ses travaux de façon qu'il soit moins débordé. Je crois comprendre que l'on va nous renvoyer certains projets de loi à étudier. Bon nombre des prévisions budgétaires principales nous ont aussi été renvoyées; nous avons donc un budget assez chargé à étudier, et, de plus, on nous a imposé une limite de temps à cet égard. Il semble qu'il ne soit plus question que nous prenions notre temps.

M. Lambert (Edmonton-Ouest): L'étude du budget devait être terminée d'ici le 31 mai, monsieur le ministre.

M. Drury: Avec l'approche des vacances de Pâques, vous verrez comme le 31 mai va arriver vite.

[*Texte*]

The Chairman: Mr. Minister, did we get the supplementary estimates later this year than we did last year?

Mr. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): I do not know. We started to sit on Tuesday morning.

Mr. Drury: Yes.

Mr. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): I think they were delivered to my office on Monday evening and we started on Tuesday morning, so certainly we did not have any time to study them.

Mr. Drury: I agree with that. This was due to the energy of your Chairman in wanting to get them as quickly as possible.

The Chairman: They were referred to us from the House on February 20.

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): The day they were tabled?

The Chairman: Yes. When they were tabled we organized the Committee.

Mr. Drury: I do not know how one can arrange to provide a longer period for this unless you sacrifice completeness and greater accuracy in the final supplementary estimates. One way to achieve the object of getting more time is to generously inflate all these figures to be sure you have enough in. This is the standard technique, just provide contingencies in every item and then let the Committee have them earlier. Then I suggest the officials would spend all their time in trying to justify this contingency. We are trying to refine these as tightly as we can and consequently this means that one has to really wait until the last moment to lock them up, and then they have to go through the process of translation and printing.

Mr. Robinson: Mr. Chairman, is Mr. Drury not saying that transferring items to the $1 items involves padding other accounts so that you can use them later on for something else.

Mr. Drury: I am not exactly sure what that means, Mr. Chairman, but . .

Mr. Robinson: It is a transfer of funds.

Mr. Drury: What we have been trying to do here is tell departments, given the budgetary restraints "You will not be able to do the things you want to do unless you can find the

[*Interprétation*]

Le président: Monsieur le ministre, est-ce que nous avons reçu le budget supplémentaire plus tard cette année que l'an dernier?

M. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Je ne sais pas. Nous avons commencé à siéger mardi matin.

M. Drury: Oui.

M. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Je crois que l'on a apporté le budget à mon bureau lundi soir, et nous avons commencé mardi matin; nous n'avons donc pas eu le temps de l'étudier.

M. Drury: Je suis bien d'accord. Cela est dû à l'énergie de votre président, qui voulait se mettre au travail aussi rapidement que possible.

Le président: La Chambre nous a renvoyé ce budget à étudier le 20 février.

M. Lambert (Edmonton-Ouest): Le jour où il a été déposé.

Le président: Oui. Dès qu'il a été déposé, on a organisé le Comité.

M. Drury: Je ne vois pas comment on peut s'arranger pour laisser plus de temps pour l'étude du budget, à moins de sacrifier le caractère complet et la grande exactitude du budget supplémentaire final. Afin de vous donner davantage de temps, on peut évidemment grossir tous ces chiffres démesurément pour être certain d'avoir des crédits suffisants. C'est la technique ordinaire: laisser une marge pour les dépenses imprévues dans chaque crédit, et remettre le budget au Comité plus tôt. Puis les représentants des ministères passent un temps fou à essayer de justifier ces dépenses imprévues. Nous nous efforçons de faire des prévisions aussi exactes que possible, si bien qu'il faut vraiment attendre jusqu'à la dernière minute pour les établir de façon définitive. Ensuite, elles doivent encore passer par la traduction et par l'impression.

M. Robinson: Monsieur le président, M. Drury ne dit-il pas qu'en transférant certains crédits pour les ajouter aux crédits de $1, on laisse en fait une grande marge dans les autres crédits afin de pouvoir les utiliser plus tard à d'autres fins?

M. Drury: Je ne suis pas certain de ce que cela signifie, monsieur le président, mais . . .

M. Robinson: Il s'agit d'un transfert de fonds.

M. Drury: Ce que nous avons essayé de faire c'est de dire aux ministères, étant donné les restrictions budgétaires: «Vous ne pourrez pas faire ce que vous voulez faire, à moins

[*Text*]

•1615

money within your own makeup". As a consequence, they have had to look again at their priorities and on the basis of a re-assessment of priorities limit their activities in one field in order to proceed in another. The purpose of this is to try to have a different range of things; a different emphasis in programs to be achieved, without it all being a net increase in expenditure.

Mr. Robinson: Could we assume that it is really a cut-back in some other programs?

Mr. Drury: You can assume that it is in some cases.

Mr. Robinson: And, as you say, a reassessment of priorities?

Mr. Drury: That is correct.

The Chairman: Mr. Gundlock?

Mr. Gundlock: I have one question to ask the Minister in looking through this, and I have given it some study, as far as I am concerned there is a glaring mistake. You mention one category, and I particularly have in mind those people in government service, who have been overseas. There is nothing there for them. For instance, take any department—your own, as a matter of fact—where people are sent overseas and later on they find they have contracted a certain kind of disease. There is a cut-off date there. Why not include in this item those people in government service? I would mention...

Mr. Drury: I am not sure which item we are talking about. I am a little lost.

Mr. Gundlock: I am back to Item 12b.

The Chairman: Are you on Item 12b on page 12?

Mr. Gundlock: Right. For example, we might take your department, or the Department of External Affairs, those people who go overseas and contract a disease which may not even be apparent for a few years and then there is a cut off date and it is too late.

Mr. Drury: Where is this cutoff?

Mr. Gundlock: I think it is at about the eight year.

The Chairman: Is the question clear, Mr. Drury, or do you need more...

Mr. Drury: I am afraid I am a bit lost.

[*Interpretation*]

que vous ne puissiez trouver l'argent dans votre propre organisation». En conséquence, ils ont dû réexaminer leur ordre de priorité, et, en se fondant sur cette réévaluation, limiter leur activité dans un domaine afin de mieux progresser dans un autre. L'objet en est de parvenir à une certaine gradation, d'insister de façons différentes sur les divers programmes à réaliser, sans que cela résulte toujours dans une augmentation globale des dépenses.

M. Robinson: Doit-on en déduire que cela représente en fait une réduction des crédits affectés à certains programmes?

M. Drury: Oui, dans certains cas.

M. Robinson: Comme vous le dites, il s'agit d'une réévaluation de l'ordre de priorité?

M. Drury: C'est vrai.

Le président: Monsieur Gundlock?

M. Gundlock: J'ai une question à poser au ministre. En étudiant ceci, et, pour ma part, j'y ai consacré pas mal de temps, j'y trouve une erreur flagrante. Vous mentionnez une certaine catégorie de personnes. Je songe surtout aux fonctionnaires qui ont été outre-mer. Rien n'est prévu pour ces personnes. Prenez n'importe quel ministère—même le vôtre, en fait—qui envoie des gens outre-mer. Et supposez que ces personnes s'aperçoivent plus tard qu'elles ont contracté une certaine maladie. Il y a une date limite dans ces cas-là. Pourquoi ne pas inclure ces fonctionnaires dans ce crédit?

M. Drury: Je ne sais pas très bien de quel crédit il s'agit? Je suis un peu perdu.

M. Gundlock: J'en suis de nouveau au crédit 12b.

Le président: En êtes-vous au crédit 12b à la page 12?

M. Gundlock: Oui. Prenons, par exemple, dans votre propre ministère ou au ministère des Affaires extérieures, le personnel qui est envoyé outre-mer et qui attrape une maladie qui ne se déclare peut-être que plusieurs années plus tard. Il y a une date limite, et il se peut qu'alors il soit trop tard.

M. Drury: A quand est fixée la date limite?

M. Gundlock: Après une période de huit ans environ, je crois.

Le président: La question est-elle claire, monsieur Drury, ou voulez-vous davantage de...

M. Drury: Je suis un peu perdu, j'en ai peur.

[*Texte*]

Mr. Gundlock: I am almost lost as well, but I wonder why you do not include those people in government service in this item?

Mr. Drury: Who?

Mr. Gundlock: Departmental people, government service.

Mr. Drury: Under the Government Employees Compensation Act?

Mr. Gundlock: I think it would be included in this item. It should be mentioned within this item. It would help the provinces. I know that it may be provincial or it may be federal, I am not quite sure, but you mention a certain category here and I wonder why you do not include those people in the government employ or government service?

Mr. Drury: If you are discussing item 12b...

Mr. Gundlock: Right.

The Chairman: Government Employees Compensation Act.

Mr. Gundlock: You mention a certain category under this item.

Mr. Drury: The category is already in the Act. This is to extend it to a specific group, namely the employees of the Cape Breton Development Corporation, who until recently were in the employ of Dosco. You now wish the provisions of the Government Employees Compensation Act to be extended to...

Mr. Gundlock: I would think it would extend to government employees; this is all I mean.

Mr. Drury: It does. That is what the Act is all about.

Mr. Gundlock: But it does not happen that way.

Mr. Drury: Then perhaps the Act is defective. I would be delighted to hear in what way it is defective. Here is a case—if I may so suggest—where I go along with Mr. Lambert. If the Government Employees Compensation Act is substantially defective, the way to amend it is not with a $1 item but to look at the Act and amend it by way of a bill with first, second and third reading.

Mr. Gundlock: I appreciate that very well, Mr. Minister. I suppose, Mr. Chairman, it would not be quite fair to ask the Minister his opinion, but this is a glaring—what do you call it when you leave it out?

[*Interprétation*]

M. Gundlock: Moi aussi, mais je me demande pourquoi vous n'incluez pas ces fonctionnaires dans ce crédit?

M. Drury: Lesquels?

M. Gundlock: Les fonctionnaires des ministères, ceux qui servent outre-mer.

M. Drury: En vertu de la Loi concernant l'indemnisation des employés de l'État?

M. Gundlock: Il me semble qu'on devrait les inclure dans ce crédit. Ceci aiderait les provinces. Cela peut être du domaine fédéral ou du domaine provincial, je ne sais pas très bien. Mais vous mentionnez ici une certaine catégorie de personnes, et je me demande pourquoi vous n'incluez pas les fonctionnaires, les gens à l'emploi du gouvernement.

M. Drury: Si vous voulez parler du crédit 12b...

M. Gundlock: Oui, c'est cela.

Le président: La Loi concernant l'indemnisation des employés de l'État.

M. Gundlock: Vous parlez d'une certaine catégorie de personnes, dans ce crédit.

M. Drury: La catégorie est déjà prévue dans la Loi. Ici, il s'agit de l'élargir à un groupe particulier, soit les employés de la Société de développement du Cap-Breton, qui travaillaient, jusqu'à tout dernièrement, pour la Société Dosco. Vous voulez maintenant que les dispositions de la Loi concernant l'indemnisation des employés de l'État soient élargies aux...

M. Gundlock: Il me semble qu'elle devrait inclure les fonctionnaires, c'est tout.

M. Drury: Mais elle les inclut. C'est précisément là l'objet de cette Loi.

M. Gundlock: Mais ce n'est pas ainsi que les choses se passent en pratique.

M. Drury: Dans ce cas, il y a peut-être une lacune dans la Loi. Je serais très heureux que l'on me dise où est cette lacune. Voilà un cas, si je peux me permettre de le dire, où je suis d'accord avec M. Lambert. Si la Loi concernant l'indemnisation des employés de l'État présente une lacune grave, ce n'est pas par un crédit de $1, qu'il faut y remédier; il faut modifier la Loi au moyen d'un bill qui recevra première, deuxième et troisième lectures.

M. Gundlock: J'en ai parfaitement conscience, monsieur le ministre. Je suppose, monsieur le président, qu'il serait un peu injuste de demander au ministre quelle est son opinion à ce sujet, mais il y a là—comment appelez-vous une chose qui manque?

[*Text*]

Mr. Drury: "Omission" is the term that is generally used. I cannot either agree or disagree because I am not quite sure...

Mr. Gundlock: Pardon me for interrupting, but I think the cutoff period is eight years. Some of these things do not affect people until they get to perhaps my age—I was going to say yours, but my age anyway...

Mr. Drury: And then the eight years is cut off.

Mr. Gundlock: I only asked for your opinion.

The Chairman: Any other questions for the Minister? We wish to thank you, Mr. Drury.

Mr. Drury: Thank you, Mr. Leblanc, very much.

The Chairman: It was very nice of you to appear before us.

Mr. Hellyer, please. I suppose we will follow the same procedure as we did with the Department of Indian Affairs, that we will complete our estimates later on. We will hear the Minister first.

An hon. Member: Fine.

The Chairman: I think we had finished the estimates of the Department of Transport and that we were on Loans, Investments and Advances. Mr. Hellyer is with us to discuss Loans, Investments and Advances for Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation on Vote L116b, Vote L117b, Vote L118b and Vote L119b.

An hon. Member: At what page, Mr. Chairman?

The Chairman: Page 29, the last one of the Supplementary Estimates. I think those were the four votes on which you wanted to question Mr. Hellyer. Mr. Paproski.

Mr. Paproski: Mr. Chairman, Mr. Minister, would you explain why you are increasing Vote L116b from $4,600,000,000 to $5,200,000,000, and then carry on with Votes L117b, L118b and L119b?

Hon. Paul Hellyer (Minister of Transport): There are in the Act statutory limits for each section as to the funds which can be spent in a number of cases in respect of the limitation on loans which can be insured. These items are all to change the statutory limits in order to permit the Act to continue to function, which it otherwise would not be able to do.

[*Interpretation*]

M. Drury: On appelle généralement cela une omission. Je ne peux prendre parti, car je ne suis pas certain...

M. Gundlock: Excusez-moi de vous interrompre, mais la limite est, je crois, une période de huit ans. Certaines de ces maladies ne se déclarent que lorsqu'une personne atteint mon âge, monsieur Drury—j'allais dire le vôtre, mais disons plutôt mon âge...

M. Drury: Et la période de huit ans est alors déjà révolue.

M. Gundlock: Je vous demandais simplement votre opinion.

Le président: Avez-vous d'autres questions à poser au ministre? Nous tenons à vous remercier, monsieur Drury.

M. Drury: Merci beaucoup, monsieur Leblanc.

Le président: C'est très aimable à vous d'être venu.

Monsieur Hellyer, s'il vous plaît. Je suppose que nous allons procéder de la même façon qu'avec le ministère des Affaires indiennes, et que nous terminerons plus tard notre étude des prévisions budgétaires. Nous allons d'abord recevoir le témoignage du Ministre.

Une voix: D'accord.

Le président: Nous avons, je crois, étudié les crédits du ministère des Transports, et qu'il s'agissait des prêts, d'investissements et d'avances. M. Hellyer est ici pour discuter la question des prêts, des investissements et des avances de l aSociété centrale d'hypothèques et de logement: Les crédits L116b, L117b, L118b, et L119b.

Une voix: A quelle page, monsieur le président?

Le président: A la page 29, le dernier crédit du budget supplémentaire. Ce sont les quatre crédits au sujet desquels vous aviez des questions à poser à M. Hellyer. Monsieur Paproski.

M. Paproski: Monsieur le président, monsieur le ministre, pourriez-vous nous expliquer, au sujet du crédit L116b, pourquoi vous avez augmenté le montant de $4,600,000,000 à $5,200,000,000. Et ensuite, si vous voulez passer au crédit L117b, L118b et L119b.

M. Paul Hellyer (ministre des Transports): Il y a des limites dans la Loi quant au montant que nous pouvons dépenser pour les prêts assurables, et les crédits visent à changer les limites statutaires pour que la Loi puisse être maintenue.

[*Texte*]

Mr. Paproski: This applies to all votes, then?

Mr. Hellyer: They are all in the same category, actually.

The Chairman: Mr. Robinson.

Mr. Robinson: Is this just for this year or for subsequent years as well?

Mr. Hellyer: Actually it has been done before, Mr. Robinson; this is not the first time. The reason, I suppose, is that the amounts are fairly large and when the Act is revised the increases from time to time are of such a magnitude that there is a feeling that they should not be increassd too much at any one time; but that means that the Act would have to be opened up more often, in many cases when these are the only amendments which would be required.

There are a number of precedents where this has been done before, and when the only change to the act at a particular time was the statutory limits it was done by one of these one-dollar items.

I think I agree in principle with Mr. Lambert that it is probably not the best method of doing things, but when it is the only change being proposed there is no principle involved. It is merely a change in the figures.

Mr. Goode: Mr. Chairman, Mr. Hellyer, you mean to expand the amount that the Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation can lend. Is this to cover what has already been done

•1625

under the direct lending program of this winter, or does this mean that there is going to be a direct lending program this spring and fall?

Mr. Hellyer: I do not think it necessarily means either one of them. First of all, to the best of my knowledge, and here I am speaking from memory, we have not exceeded any of the statutory limits up to the present time, but I think it is equally true to say that unless these amendments are made now, if we were to continue to operate during the balance of this year, we would exceed some of the statutory limits.

It is merely to provide statutory authorization for the insurance of loans and for the direct loan programs whether they are under Section 40 or under Section 16 or some other section of the Act.

The Chairman: Mr. Alkenbrack.

Mr. Alkenbrack: Mr. Chairman, do we actually put this money in the fund, or is it just permission to increase the limits of it?

[*Interprétation*]

M. Paproski: Il s'agit de tous les crédits, alors.

M. Hellyer: Ils sont tous dans la même catégorie.

Le président: Monsieur Robinson.

M. Robinson: Est-ce pour cette année seulement ou aussi pour les années subséquentes?

M. Hellyer: On l'a déjà fait, monsieur Robinson. Ce n'est pas la première fois. La raison, je suppose, est parce que les montants sont assez importants et lorsque nous passons la Loi en revue, les augmentations sont tellement considérables qu'on pense qu'il faudrait essayer de ne pas les augmenter trop à la fois; mais cela veut dire que la Loi devrait être modifiée plus souvent, mais nous avons procédé de cette façon à plusieurs occasions déjà et les seules modifications apportées à la Loi étaient pour les limites statutaires. Ce n'était peut-être pas la meilleure façon de s'y prendre.

M. Goode: Monsieur le président, monsieur Hellyer, vous avez l'intention d'augmenter le montant que la Société centrale d'hypothèques et de logement peut prêter. Est-ce pour couvrir ce qui a déjà été fait en vertu du programme de prêts directs de cet hiver, ou est-ce que cela veut dire qu'il y aura un programme de prêts directs ce printemps et cet automne?

M. Hellyer: Non, à mon sens, nous n'avons pas dépassé les limites encore jusqu'à maintenant. Mais si ces amendements ne sont pas apportés maintenant et que nous continuons notre activité, nous dépasserions les limites fixées par la Loi.

C'est uniquement pour avoir le pouvoir légal d'assurer les prêts, l'autorité de continuer ces programmes soit en vertu de l'article 40 ou de l'article 16 ou de tout autre article de la Loi.

Le président: Monsieur Alkenbrack.

M. Alkenbrack: Est-ce que vous mettez actuellement ces montants dans le fonds, ou est-ce seulement la permission d'augmenter les limites?

[*Text*]

Mr. Hellyer: It is just permission to increase the limits. There is no money involved here at all.

Mr. Alkenbrack: Thank you. Is the Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation, as a Crown corporation, the same as a private mortgage company and does it function in a similar manner? Its funds are all revolving. They have plenty of funds to operate on, have they not?

Mr. Hellyer: I do not know just how to answer your question. They have very sizeable investments from which they receive a payback each year, capital and interest. But that is a small proportion of their new investments each year at the present time of roughly 25 per cent. Provision is made and the estimates for the loans and money is required for the current year's program in excess of the return of capital investment, both capital and interest, on their present investment portfolio.

I think to answer your question, new funds are required, but they are provided for in the traditional way.

Mr. Alkenbrack: They are not in here?

Mr. Hellyer: No.

The Chairman: Mr. Gundlock.

Mr. Gundlock: Mr. Chairman, In one of these items or all of them—it does not make any difference—where does this so-called rental income housing project fall?

Mr. Hellyer: I am advised that it does not fall under any of these.

Mr. Gundlock: Then, Mr. Chairman, would it be in order to ask a question regarding that?

The Chairman: I suppose so. We want to have everything cleared up.

Mr. Gundlock: We are very familiar with the one in Ottawa, for instance. May I ask, then, how many more there are?

Mr. Hellyer: You are talking about outstanding projects?

Mr. Gundlock: Yes.

Mr. Hellyer: I think I should explain, Mr. Chairman—and I do not think we should get too far on this line—that under the Act these submissions under different categories have to be submitted to the Governor in Council for approval. In the process the Minister has to recommend them to the Governor in Council. This is a continuous process and although ministers do not always, or do not often, per-

[*Interpretation*]

M. Hellyer: C'est seulement la permission d'élever le plafond. Il n'y a pas de transfert de fonds du tout. C'est uniquement une autorisation.

M. Alkenbrack: Merci. La Société centrale d'hypothèques et de logement étant une société de la Couronne, comme toute autre société hypothécaire privée, elle a un fonds de roulement, n'est-ce pas?

M. Hellyer: Je ne sais pas comment répondre à votre question. La Société a des investissements très, très considérables, donc elle obtient des remboursements chaque année. Mais c'est une faible proportion des nouveaux investissements de chaque année: 25 p. 100 environ. Et dans le crédit, on prend des dispositions pour assurer les prêts de l'année courante dépassant le montant des remboursements. En fait, les fonds sont nécessaires, mais c'est ainsi qu'on en prévoit le versement.

M. Alkenbrack: Ils ne sont pas ici?

M. Hellyer: Non.

Le président: Monsieur Gundlock.

M. Gundlock: Monsieur le président, dans un de ces crédits ou dans tous ces crédits, où est-ce que se trouve ce projet d'immeubles loués ou à vendre avec option d'achat? Sous quelle rubrique tombent-ils?

M. Hellyer: On me dit qu'ils ne relèvent d'aucun de ces crédits.

M. Gundlock: Alors, monsieur le président, est-ce que je peux poser une question à ce sujet au ministre?

Le président: Je suppose que oui, nous voulons tout éclaircir.

M. Gundlock: A Ottawa, par exemple, puis-je lui demander combien de nouveaux projets sont en train?

M. Hellyer: Vous parlez des projets en cours?

M. Gundlock: Oui.

M. Hellyer: Je tiens à vous dire, monsieur le président, je devrais peut-être vous expliquer. Il ne faudrait pas trop s'écarter du sujet de discussion. En vertu de la Loi, les demandes relevant des différentes catégories doivent être approuvées par le gouverneur en conseil. Le ministre, par conséquent, doit les recommander à l'approbation du gouverneur en conseil. Et bien que les ministres ne changent

[*Texte*]

haps, change submissions or hold them up for review, they have a perfect right to do so because this power has been given to them under the law.

Sometimes things are submitted to the Governor in Council the day they are received and sometimes they are sent back for further information or held up for two or three or four weeks while policy is being reviewed, so that there is really nothing unusual in the present situation. I have already indicated that I have been looking at submissions in some areas to see how they might fit with policy, but this is provided for in the Act. If there is any major change in policy, of course, it will be announced in the normal way and will be subject to debate.

Mr. Gundlock: A supplementary. Is it money, or is it policy?

• 1630

Mr. Hellyer: It is policy. We have the money, so that there is no problem there at the moment. I cannot say that there will never be a problem, but there is no shortage of funds as of this moment.

Mr. Gundlock: It is a meeting of minds.

Mr. Hellyer: It is a question of meeting of minds; that is right.

The Chairman: Mr. Thomson.

Mr. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Mr. Chairman, under Vote L110b, Vancouver International Airport, to whom are they lending this money.

Mr. Hellyer: Actually these loans are for the construction of two bridges being built by the National Harbours Board; one over the Middle Arm of the Fraser and one over the North Arm called the Hudson Street Approach. These bridges will be operated as full facilities and the tolls will be used to pay off the loans.

Mr. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Mr. Chairman, under the Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation, what are the losses sustained here? Are they very large? Do you have a percentage estimate?

Mr. Hellyer: In total there are no losses because their investments are so large that there is a return to the government on the moneys invested. There are losses under certain sections of the Act where there are heavy subsidies involved, in particular public housing. I suppose under the sewer program there are write-offs, which are another form of subsidy. I do not know if there have been land assembly projects where there have

[*Interprétation*]

pas souvent les requêtes ou les gardent en suspens pour les examiner, ils pourraient le faire parce que ce pouvoir leur est accordé par la Loi.

Quelques fois, les demandes sont soumises au gouverneur en conseil le jour même où le ministre les reçoit. Quelques fois, le ministre les garde pendant quelques jours ou quelques semaines au moment où la politique est reprise en mains par le Cabinet. Mais à l'heure actuelle, comme je l'ai déjà dit, nous avons examiné les demandes émanant de certaines régions pour voir dans quelle mesure elles cadrent avec la politique appliquée. Mais ceci est prévu par la Loi et si la politique subit des changements radicaux, on vous l'annonce en temps voulu de façon ordinaire.

M. Gundlock: Une question supplémentaire. Est-ce la politique ou est-ce l'argent?

M. Hellyer: C'est la politique. Nous avons l'argent, de sorte que pour le moment, l'argent ne serait pas le problème. Il n'y a pas de pénurie de fonds.

M. Gundlock: C'est une question d'unanimité.

M. Hellyer: En effet.

Le président: Monsieur Thomson.

M. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Monsieur le président, en vertu de L110b, au sujet de l'aéroport international de Vancouver, à qui prête-t-on cet argent?

M. Hellyer: En réalité, ces prêts sont pour la construction de deux ponts par le Conseil des ports nationaux; un traversant le bras central du fleuve Fraser et l'autre en travers du bras septentrional qu'on appelle l'approche de la rue Hudson. Ces ponts seront à péage et ces péages seront utilisés pour rembourser les prêts.

M. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Monsieur le président, quelles sont les pertes subies par la Société centrale d'hypothèques et de logement? Sont-elles considérables. En avez-vous une évaluation procentuelle?

M. Hellyer: Dans l'ensemble, il n'y a pas de perte parce que les investissements sont si importants qu'ils doivent être imputés à l'État. Il y a certaines pertes dans certaines divisions, dans certaines catégories, surtout par exemple, le logement subventionné. Il y a aussi des amortissements qui sont effectués. Je ne sais pas si, dans le programme du remaniement parcellaire, il y aura un déficit ou non. Même si tout cela porte sur des mil-

[*Text*]

been losses or not. There may have been. Although these are substantial in terms of millions of dollars, they are not as great as the revenues from the various investments and, consequently, you have to examine each program individually if you want to know if there is a profit or loss situation.

Mr. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): I did not make myself clear. I did not mean in connection with sewage or land assembly. I was thinking in terms of people who could not pay—losses uncollectable in this sense.

Mr. Hellyer: Most of these, I think, are under the insurance provision of the Act where we collect from the borrower an insurance premium, and the losses are paid out of that insurance premium fund. The fund has grown substantially over the years and it was really on the basis of the experience with that fund that the Task Force recommended that perhaps the insurance premiums could be cut at this time.

So, to answer what I think is the purport of your question, the losses are fairly small in relation to the total amount of business being done.

Mr. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): This leads to my next question, Mr. Chairman. In view of the small losses and the fact that the borrower apparently pays interest to cover them, I wonder about the rate charged on some of these housing loans: could they not be a little less in view of this?

Mr. Hellyer: Are you talking about the insurance fee or the mortgage rate?

Mr. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): The mortgage rate.

Mr. Hellyer: The mortgage rate is set by statute. The maximum at the present time is 2¼ points above the average of long-term Government of Canada bonds for a prescribed period. In practice, loans are presently being made by the banks and by the Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation below the limit.

Mr. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): And that is what right at the moment?

Mr. Hellyer: The limit is 9⅜, if I remember correctly, and the loans are being made at 9 per cent. So that, I agree with you I would like to see the interest rate come down, but this is something over which there is no administrative control.

[*Interpretation*]

lions de dollars, les recettes ne sont pas aussi importantes. Mais, pour avoir une idée d'ensemble, il faut examiner aussi l'ensemble des recettes des autres programmes.

M. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Je ne me suis pas exprimé clairement. Je ne pensais pas aux égouts ou aux terrains. Je pensais plutôt aux personnes incapables de payer ou aux pertes irrecouvrables en ce sens.

M. Hellyer: La plupart d'entre elles, je crois, sont couvertes par les dispositions d'assurance contenues dans la Loi, où nous percevons une prime d'assurance de l'emprunteur et où les pertes sont comblées à même le fonds constitué par les primes d'assurance. Le fonds a pris une grande importance, au cours des années, et c'est réellement en vertu de l'expérience réalisée avec ce fonds que le groupe d'enquête a dit qu'une réduction des primes d'assurance serait possible en ce moment.

Donc, pour répondre à ce que je crois être l'objet de votre question, les pertes sont relativement peu importantes par rapport au montant total des affaires transigées.

M. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Et ceci m'amène à poser une autre question, monsieur le président. Étant donné les faibles pertes, vu qu'il semble que les emprunteurs paient un taux d'intérêt pour les couvrir, je me demande si, pour cette raison, la prime exigée pour certains de ces prêts au logement ne pourrait pas être quelque peu abaissée?

M. Hellyer: Est-ce que vous parlez de la prime d'assurance ou du taux d'hypothèque?

M. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Du taux hypothécaire.

M. Hellyer: Le taux de remboursement hypothécaire est fixé par la loi. Le maximum à l'heure actuelle est de 2½ p. 100 supérieur à la moyenne du rendement des obligations à long terme de l'État pour une période déterminée. En pratique, les prêts qui sont consentis présentement par les banques et par la Société centrale d'hypothèques et de logement sont inférieurs à la limite.

M. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Et quel est ce taux à l'heure actuelle?

M. Hellyer: La limite est de 9 3/8 p. 100, si ma mémoire est bonne, et les prêts sont faits à 9. p. 100. Je suis d'accord avec vous sur ce point, et je voudrais que le taux d'intérêt soit abaissé, mais nous n'avons aucun pouvoir à ce sujet.

[*Texte*]

Mr. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): All right. We could change the Act, if you will, but thinking of farm loans, which are guaranteed under the Farm Improvement Loans Act or the Farm Credit Act, money can be borrowed at a lower rate. Could we not do something similar to that in housing?

Mr. Hellyer: This was considered very cerefully by the Task Force and the problem is to subsidize interest rates on all mortgages which is what would soon be happening. It is a very expensive program and I think no government has the funds available at the moment to enter into that kind of a new expenditure. We did suggest as an alternative for low income people, as an alternative to public housing, for example, that there be subsidies either for purchase or for rental, but you have to limit the number of people to which it applied pretty drastically or your expenditures would be beyond what any level of government is presently able to undertake.

•1635

Mr. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Mr. Chairman, my understanding of the Farm Improvement Loans Act is that there is no subsidy here, or such a small one that it involves a few losses but...

Mr. Hellyer: I think there has been an element of subsidy and I think the difference in the amount of money required for the two programs is an additional factor which has to be taken into account. The amount of capital required for the total housing program in the country now is of the order of $2 billion a year from the private lenders and they just will not make these loans at rates below market rates. In other words, they have to compete with plant expansion and other things that make demands on the capital market.

Mr. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): We might have a disagreement here. For example, I am a farmer and I can go and borrow money from the bank at less than 9 per cent under the Farm Improvement Loans Act and my point is...

Mr. Hellyer: You are getting a little subsidy in that—a little free ride on the taxpayers.

[*Interprétation*]

M. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Très bien, nous pourrions changer la Loi, si vous voulez, mais je songe aux prêts agricoles qui sont garantis par la Loi sur les prêts destinés aux améliorations agricoles ou par la Loi sur le crédit agricole; les prêts d'argent peuvent se faire à un taux inférieur. Ne pourrions-nous pas faire quelque chose de semblable dans le cas du logement?

M. Hellyer: La Commission du logement a examiné à fond ce problème, et la difficulté est de subventionner les taux d'intérêt de tous les prêts hypothécaires. C'est là que vous en arriveriez en fin de compte. C'est un programme très coûteux, et je crois qu'aucun État n'a assez d'argent en disponibilité pour supporter des dépenses de cet ordre. Mais en guise d'alternative, nous avons proposé, à l'intention des personnes à faible revenu, au lieu des habitations à loyer modique par exemple, que des subventions soient instituées en vue de l'achat ou de la location d'une maison. Mais le nombre des personnes admissibles devra être limité de façon assez radicale, sans quoi, les dépenses dépasseraient les possibilités actuelles des gouvernements à tous les niveaux.

M. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Monsieur le président, la Loi sur les prêts destinés aux améliorations agricoles, telle que je la comprends, ne comporte pas de subventions, ou elles sont si minimes qu'il y a très peu de perte, mais...

M. Hellyer: Enfin, il y a un certain subventionnement, et je crois que la différence dans le montant d'argent nécessaire aux deux programmes est un facteur supplémentaire dont il faut tenir compte. Les capitaux nécessaires au programme global de logement dans tous le pays présentement se chiffrent à 2 milliards de dollars par an dans le cas des prêteurs privés, et il va de soi qu'il ne consentiront pas ces prêts à des taux inférieurs aux taux courants. En d'autres termes, ils ont à faire concurrence à l'expansion d'une usine ou à d'autres choses qui font la demande sur le marché des capitaux.

M. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Nous ne sommes peut-être pas d'accord là-dessus. Par exemple, je suis cultivateur, et je peux emprunter de l'argent de la banque à moins de 9 p. 100, en vertu de la Loi sur les prêts destinés aux améliorations agricoles; et je soutiens que...

M. Hellyer: Mais vous bénéficiez d'une légère subvention, à ce moment-là, et ce sont les contribuables qui vous paient la tournée.

[*Text*]

Mr. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): I may be in error. I will check this out.

Mr. Alkenbrack: Mr. Chairman, I was interested in the Minister's housing report. I was wondering if he could tell the Committee whether or not the sales tax will be removed from lumber?

The Chairman: You realize, of course, that we are away from our supplementary estimates.

Mr. Gundlock: Mr. Chairman, a farmer was speaking a moment ago. I am a farmer too, and, believe me, farmers do not get a free ride these days.

Mr. Hellyer: No, I think in total you can say that; I agree. I am a farmer too.

Mr. Gundlock: You remind me of Harry Hays—a sheep farmer.

Mr. Alkenbrack: Mr. Chairman, I think the subject is in order because the Minister as just discussing methods of making mortgages cheaper and borrowing easier.

Mr. Hellyer: I do not think it is really relevant to the specific items before us, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. Alkenbrack: I submit that is for the Chairman to decide. It is for you to decide Mr. Chairman.

The Chairman: That is why I mentioned before that we were away from the supplementary estimates now.

Mr. McCutcheon: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to refer the Minister, if I might, for a moment to Vote L119b. Could you tell me please what the ceiling is on home improvement loans currently?

Mr. Hellyer: The present statutory ceiling is $500 million. I cannot tell you what is loaned out unless...

Mr. McCutcheon: Can you tell me what the maximum single loan is?

Mr. Hellyer: The Treasury Board has the information here. The loan commitments made to the end of the calendar year 1968 total $490 million. In other words, we are approaching the ceiling.

Mr. McCutcheon: You did not understand my question. I was asking for the ceiling on individual loans. It used to be $4,000 dollars.

[*Interpretation*]

M. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Je pourrais faire erreur. Je vérifierai.

M. Alkenbrack: Monsieur le président, le rapport que nous a fait le ministre sur la question du logement m'a intéressé. Peut-être pourrait-il dire au Comité si l'on va abolir la taxe de vente sur le bois de charpente.

Le président: Vous vous rendez compte, je suppose, que nous nous éloignons du budget supplémentaire.

M. Gundlock: Monsieur le président, un agriculteur parlait tout à l'heure; je suis agriculteur, mois aussi, et, croyez-moi, les agriculteurs ne s'en sortent pas facilement, de nos jours.

M. Hellyer: Non, c'est vrai, de façon générale. Je suis bien de votre avis. Moi aussi, je suis agriculteur.

M. Gundlock: Vous me rappelez Harry Hays—un éleveur de moutons.

M. Alkenbrack: Monsieur le président, je ne pense pas que cette question s'écarte du sujet, car le ministre parlait, il y a un instant, des moyens d'abaisser les taux hypothécaires et de faciliter les emprunts.

M. Hellyer: Je ne pense pas que cela ait vraiment un rapport avec les crédits que nous examinons, monsieur le président.

M. Alkenbrack: Je suis d'avis que c'est au président à trancher la question. C'est à vous à décider, monsieur le président.

Le président: C'est pourquoi je disais tout à l'heure que nous étions en train de nous éloigner du budget supplémentaire.

M. McCutcheon: Merci, monsieur le président. Je voudrais porter un instant l'attention du ministre, si je peux me le permettre, au crédit L119b. Pourriez-vous me dire quel est actuellement le plafonnement des prêts destinés à l'amélioration des maisons?

M. Hellyer: Le plafond statutaire actuel se situe à 500 millions de dollars. Je ne peux pas vous dire combien l'on prête, à moins que...

M. McCutcheon: Pouvez-vous me dire quel est le montant maximum autorisé pour un prêt?

M. Hellyer: Le Conseil du Trésor a ces renseignements. A la fin de l'année civile 1968, le montant total des prêts consentis s'élevait à 490 millions de dollars. En d'autres termes, nous avons presque atteint le plafond.

M. McCutcheon: Vous n'avez pas compris ma question. J'ai demandé quel était le plafonnement pour chaque prêt. Il était autrefois de $4,000, je crois.

[*Texte*]

Mr. Hellyer: I think it still is.

Mr. McCutcheon: I recall the committee that Senator Croll chaired which looked at housing and the recommendation of that committee was that this figure was completely unrealistic because $4,000 does not do anything to help the situation as far as housing is concerned. In this item, where you are increasing your ceiling, are you planning on a further change to make the amount of the individual loan realistic?

Mr. Hellyer: That would require an amendment to the Act and, as you know, we do propose to make some amendments to the Act fairly soon.

Mr. McCutcheon: Would that be one of them?

Mr. Hellyer: As much as I would love to tell you what I would like to see in it I am not able to do so this afternoon.

Mr. Gillespie: Mr. Chairman, I want to ask the Minister a question about these interest costs we were referring to a moment ago as to whether he had some idea of the order of magnitude we were talking about. If interest rates were to be subsidized in the way that has been suggested, let us say to the equivalent of two percentage points, how many loans would be affected by such a subsidy? For instance, does Vote L118b, increasing the aggregate amount from $9.5 billion to $11 billion, represent the number of loans that the Minister expects will be outstanding a year's time?

• 1640

Mr. Hellyer: These were estimated to be sufficient to carry us through to the end of 1970. If you were to subsidize NHA rates, then you would get a transfer of mortgage business from conventional to NHA and you would need considerably higher limits.

Mr. Gillespie: Let us say two per cent of this is in the order, then, of $200 million. Is this correct? Is this the order of magnitude?

Mr. Hellyer: I would want to know specifically what you are referring it to.

Mr. Gillespie: I was think of a comment made by one of the other members a few moments ago when he was suggesting that there might be ways of reducing interest rates through subsidy, and on your comment, when you said that it would be expensive, I want to get some idea of just how expensive it might be.

[*Interprétation*]

M. Hellyer: Il l'est toujours.

M. McCutcheon: Je me souviens du comité que présidait le sénateur Croll, et qui avait examiné la question du logement. Ce comité avait dit que ce chiffre n'était absolument pas réaliste, car $4,000 n'améliorent pas beaucoup la situation, en ce qui concerne le logement. Dans ce crédit, par lequel vous élevez votre plafond, est-ce que vous envisagez une autre modification, qui permettrait de rendre le montant des prêts plus réaliste?

M. Hellyer: Il faudrait pour cela modifier la Loi, et, vous le savez, nous avons bien l'intention d'apporter certaines modifications à la Loi, prochainement.

M. McCutcheon: Est-ce là l'une des modifications que vous comptez apporter?

M. Hellyer: J'aimerais beaucoup vous dire ce que je voudrais voir accomplir, mais je ne peux le faire cet après-midi.

M. Gillespie: Monsieur le ministre, je voudrais poser une question au ministre au sujet des coûts de l'intérêt dont nous parlions tout à l'heure. J'aimerais savoir s'il a une idée de l'importance numéraire de la chose. Si l'on accordait des subsides sur les taux d'intérêt, comme on l'a proposé, disons jusqu'à concurrence de 2 p. 100, à combien de prêts cela s'appliquerait-il? Par exemple, le crédit L118b, qui fait passer le montant global de 9.5 milliards de dollars à 11 milliards de dollars, représente-t-il le nombre des prêts qui, selon les prévisions du ministre, seront impayés d'ici un an?

M. Hellyer: On estimait que cela serait suffisant pour nous amener jusqu'à la fin de 1970. Si vous deviez accorder des subsides pour les taux prescrits par la Loi nationale sur le logement, il y aurait un transfert des hypothèques, qui, au lieu de se faire de la manière ordinaire, se feraient en vertu de la Loi nationale sur le logement, et il vous faudrait des limites beaucoup plus élevées.

M. Gillespie: Prenons 2 p. 100 de ce chiffre; cela nous donne dans les 200 millions de dollars. Est-ce exact? Le chiffre serait-il bien de cette importance?

M. Hellyer: Je voudrais savoir exactement à quoi vous faites allusion.

M. Gillespie: Je pensais à une observation qu'a faite tout à l'heure l'un des membres du Comité; il disait qu'il y aurait peut-être moyen de diminuer les taux d'intérêt grâce à des subsides. Vous disiez que cela coûterait trop cher. Je voudrais savoir à peu près combien cela coûterait.

[*Text*]

Mr. Hellyer: You would have to know the size of the program and how you intended to administer it and this is part of the problem, because if it was a general interest subsidization it would soon, I think, extend itself to all new mortgages and all refinancing so that it is not much for a year's program, but it is cumulative, and after four or five years time you are talking about very large amounts of money.

Mr. Gillespie: When you say very large, are you talking about $500 million a year?

Mr. Hellyer: Perhaps $200 million a year, at the end of a four- or five-year period or something like that.

The Chairman: Mr. Lambert.

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): Going down from item L116b to L119b, I take it that L1116b is the direct lending item from CMHC to the individual house builder. When was the last increase made, and how long do you anticipate this present increase of $600 million to last you, Mr. Minister?

Mr. Hellyer: The last one was made last year.

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): At what time?

Mr. Hellyer: Through the supplementary estimates by another $1 item.

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): At what time?

Mr. Hellyer: It would be the end of 1967-68, tabled on October 27.

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): Yes, I remember now. This $1 item came in under the guillotine. It was not even looked at, because if I remember rightly, all estimates for 1967-68 were considered after September 12 and were all lumped together. And there were so many days allotted, and then we had one final swoop when everything went through. That is why one is able to say that there was a $1 legislative item in the supplementary estimates last year. I would like to know how far we are going to go with this one. Are we going to get a further supplementary estimate in the fall, or a request for a statutory change?

Mr. Hellyer: The answer to that question is if the amendments to the act are introduced shortly, as proposed, they would provide new limits which hopefully would get us over the next couple of years, or longer.

[*Interpretation*]

M. Hellyer: Il faudrait savoir quelle est l'importance du programme, et comment vous comptez le mettre en application. C'est là que réside en partie le problème, car, si l'octroi de subsides était d'intérêt général, ces subsides s'étendraient très vite à toutes les nouvelles hypothèques et à tous les renouvellements de prêts; ce n'est pas tellement pour un programme d'un an, mais c'est cumulatif, et, après 4 ou 5 ans, on se trouve devant un montant très important.

M. Gillespie: Quand vous dites «très important», est-ce que vous parlez de 500 millions de dollars par année?

M. Hellyer: Peut-être 200 millions de dollars par année, à la fin de 4 ou 5 ans.

Le président: Monsieur Lambert.

M. Lambert (Edmonton-Ouest): Pour passer du crédit L116b au crédit L119B, je crois que L116b est un prêt direct de la Société centrale d'hypothèques et de logement aux particuliers qui construisent une maison. Quand est-ce que la dernière augmentation a eu lieu? Et cette augmentation actuelle de 600 millions de dollars suffira pendant combien de temps, d'après vous?

M. Hellyer: La dernière augmentation a été faite l'année passée.

M. Lambert (Edmonton-Ouest): A quel moment?

M. Hellyer: Dans le budget supplémentaire, par un autre crédit de $1.00.

M. Lambert (Edmonton-Ouest): A quel moment?

M. Hellyer: Déposée en octobre; à la fin de 1967-1968.

M. Lambert (Edmonton-Ouest): Oui, je me souviens maintenant. Ce crédit de un dollar a passé à la guillotine aussi. On n'y a même pas jeté un coup d'œil, car tous les crédits de 1967-1968 ont, en fait, été examinés après le 12 septembre, et tous englobés dans un seul montant dans les délais qui nous ont été donnés; il a fallu se dépêcher. Ils ont été adoptés en bloc. C'est pourquoi vous pouvez nous dire qu'il y avait des crédits de un dollar l'année dernière. Mais je voudrais savoir jusqu'où nous allons aller avec celui-ci. Aurons-nous un crédit supplémentaire cet automne? Ou une demande de modification statutaire?

M. Hellyer: La modification de la loi sera présentée prochainement, établissant de nouvelles limites qui, je l'espère, seront valables pour quelques années.

[*Texte*]

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): I see. With regard to item L118b which I find a little difficult, these are the loans made by the conventional mortgage companies which are insured under the CMHC. And how you could subsidize those, I do not know, without paying a direct grant to them.

Mr. Hellyer: There are a number of ways in which it could be done if anyone had the money to undertake this program.

• 1645

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): How long do you expect this limit of $1,500,000,000 to last you, this limit increase?

Mr. Hellyer: Again as I indicated presumably, I thought, to the end of 1970, but I am advised to the end of March 31, 1970. It is a little difficult to tell because the rate keeps changing. Last year, for example, the rate of insured loans under the National Housing Act was very much greater than it was the previous year, by a different order of magnitude. It is a little difficult to estimate exactly how long it will be adequate.

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): I thought I saw somewhere that you indicated that there would be required from the money market about 1 billion a year to give us, shall we say, the value of housing that we require.

Mr. Hellyer: About $2 billion a year.

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): About $2 billion from all sectors?

Mr. Hellyer: Right.

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): I see. You figure this might take you to March 31, 1970, all things being equal?

Mr. Hellyer: That is what I am advised, yes, but a tremendous amount depends on market conditions which are fairly difficult to predict.

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): That is all I have on this except again the general proposition as to why this was done by supplementary estimate.

Mr. Hellyer: In this case, Mr. Lambert, when we anticipated introducing amendments to the act within a few weeks anyway, we needed sufficient statutory authority to get us over the period in between. In that event, it makes sense to do it this way.

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): You just told me that you wanted to get through to March 31, 1970.

Mr. Hellyer: There is always the possibility that Parliament might not approve legisla-

[*Interprétation*]

M. Lambert (Edmonton-Ouest): Je vois. Au sujet de L118b, il m'est un peu difficile de comprendre, parce que ce sont des emprunts faits par les sociétés de prêts et garantis par la Société centrale. Comment allez-vous les subventionner, sans une subvention directe?

M. Hellyer: Il y a plusieurs moyens de s'y prendre si on avait de l'argent.

M. Lambert (Edmonton-Ouest): Combien de temps cette limite de $1,500,000,000 durera-t-elle d'après vous?

M. Hellyer: Une fois de plus, on s'attend à ce qu'elle dure jusqu'à la fin de 1970, et, on me dit, jusqu'au 31 mars 1970. Il est un peu difficile de le dire parce que le taux change. L'année passée, par exemple, le taux des emprunts assurés en vertu de la Loi nationale sur le logement était beaucoup plus élevé que l'année précédente, d'un tout autre ordre de grandeur. Il est difficile de faire des prévisions.

M. Lambert (Edmonton-Ouest): Je pensais qu'à un endroit, vous disiez que vous auriez besoin d'environ 1 milliard de dollars par année du marché des capitaux pour fournir le logement nécessaire.

M. Hellyer: Environ 2 milliards par année.

M. Lambert (Edmonton-Ouest): De tous les secteurs?

M. Hellyer: C'est exact.

M. Lambert (Edmonton-Ouest): Vous pensez que cela vous portera jusqu'au 31 mars 1970?

M. Hellyer: C'est ce qu'on me dit, oui, mais tout cela dépend beaucoup du marché des capitaux qui est difficile à prévoir.

M. Lambert (Edmonton-Ouest): C'est tout ce que je voulais savoir, sauf pourquoi vous le demandez dans le budget supplémentaire.

M. Hellyer: Lorsque nous avons songé à proposer des modifications à la Loi dans quelques semaines, il nous fallait des pouvoirs statutaires qui nous permettent de continuer entre temps. Dans ce contexte, il est logique de procéder ainsi.

M. Lambert (Edmonton-Ouest): Vous venez de me dire que ce crédit vous reportera jusqu'au 31 mars 1970?

M. Hellyer: Il est toujours possible que le Parlement n'adopte pas la Loi, ou un camion

[*Text*]

tion, or we may get run over by a truck or something, You never know, so it is wise to have a little ahead.

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): This is going to be the cushion, is it? This was coming under a guillotine. Mr. Minister, I am going to repeat, you heard me tell Mr. Drury, that this is a bad practice as far as many of us are concerned. It would be far more open, and I think you will be further ahead in the end, to come forward legitimately with statutory amendments rather than these $1 items.

Mr. Hellyer: We will be glad to note that. Also, as I say, I will be happy if we can introduce amendments to the act and provide larger limits which will obviate the necessity of doing this.

Mr. Gillespie: I have one last question and I would like to know, Mr. Chairman, what formula the Minister uses in allocating funds for NHA across Canada?

Mr. Hellyer: It is really too complicated to answer easily. Later on when the estimates of the CMHC are being considered, I will be glad to go into it in greater detail. Different provinces have different requirements, and it is impossible to devise a single formula which meets the needs of the people in all parts of the country. For example, Nova Scotia has a far bigger chunk of co-operative housing than other parts of the country. Ontario has taken more advantage of public housing and land assemblies than have other parts of the country.

It is done really on the basis of an evaluation of what is likely to be required in different parts of the country under the various sections of the act, and then relating that to the total funds available.

Mr. Gillespie: Did the Minister not state just lately, Mr. Chairman, that some provinces have tendencies to be a little more hoggish than others? Why, Sir, would you say this? There must be a reason for it.

Mr. Hellyer: I think some provinces were very aggressive in their policies and got in first while there were still funds available.

Mr. Gillespie: I see.

The Chairman: Gentlemen, I think that completes Mr. Hellyer's questioners.

Mr. Skoberg: Could I ask a supplementary question, Mr. Chairman?

The Chairman: Mr. Skoberg.

Mr. Skoberg: I was not here earlier, Mr. Chairman, but I am wondering whether or

[*Interpretation*]

peut nous passer dessus. Il est toujours sage d'avoir des réserves.

M. Lambert (Edmonton-Ouest): Et cela nous servira de coussin. Surtout que cela allait passer sous la guillotine. Monsieur le ministre, vous m'avez entendu dire à M. Drury, que beaucoup d'entre nous considérons ce procédé très mauvais. Ce serait beaucoup plus juste et en fin de compte, vous auriez avantage à présenter des modifications législatives statutaires plutôt que de procéder par crédit de $1.00.

M. Hellyer: Nous en prenons note. Je serai heureux de proposer des amendements à la Loi afin de hausser les limites.

M. Gillespie: Une dernière question, monsieur le président, j'aimerais savoir quelle formule le ministre applique pour répartir les fonds de la Société centrale à travers le pays?

M. Hellyer: C'est vraiment trop compliqué pour répondre. Plus tard, lorsque les crédits de la Société centrale d'hypothèques et de logement seront abordés, nous en reparlerons en détail. Chaque province a des exigences différentes, et il est impossible de mettre au point une formule qui serve pour tout le pays. Par exemple la Nouvelle-Écosse a beaucoup plus de maisons coopératives que d'autres provinces, tandis que l'Ontario a fait davantage usage du programme de logement public et du regroupement des terres que d'autres parties du pays.

Tout se fait suivant les besoins anticipés pour les diverses parties du pays en vertu des divers articles de la Loi et ensuite mis en rapport avec les fonds disponibles.

M. Gillespie: Le ministre disait, tout à l'heure, que certaines provinces sont plus voraces que d'autres? Pourquoi dites-vous cela?

M. Hellyer: Certaines sont beaucoup plus dynamiques, et ont présenté leurs demandes avant les autres.

M. Gillespie: Je vois.

Le président: Messieurs, ceci met fin aux questions posées à M. Hellyer.

M. Skoberg: Est-ce que vous m'autorisez une question, monsieur le président?

Le président: M. Skoberg.

M. Skoberg: Je n'y étais pas plus tôt et j'aurais une question sur le crédit 15b. Je

[*Texte*]

not you would allow a question on vote 15b. I understand the Minister was not here when this was discussed?

The Chairman: Which one is that?

Mr. Skoberg: Vote 15b on page 20 of the supplementary estimates.

The Chairman: That vote was carried.

Mr. Skoberg: I was just wondering whether you would allow a short question.

The Chairman: What is the question? We will see.

Mr. Skoberg: Thank you. I was just wondering if the Minister could indicate whether

• 1650

or not any of the payments to the Canadian National Railways System under the first section of that vote would be going to the outstanding claims of the Great Slave Lake?

Mr. Hellyer: I think it would be impossible to answer that question because to the extent that any claims were settled either voluntarily or through the courts, and to the extent that the resulted in higher expenditures and therefore greater deficits, it might be included, but I. . .

Mr. Skoberg: I think we all appreciate the fact that the claims have not been settled through the courts, and they are still out of the courts.

Mr. Hellyer: Some have been settled.

Mr. Skoberg: I am wondering about the ones, of course, that are out of the courts at this time.

Mr. Hellyer: I really cannot answer that question?

Mr. Skoberg: To whom would a person apply to obtain an answer?

Mr. Hellyer: I think when the CNR are here with their annual report, that would be the time to ask.

The Chairman: Perhaps you could ask a question on the Orders of the Day.

Mr. Skoberg: No, we have tried that.

The Chairman: Thank you very much, Mr. Minister.

The officials will remain with us while we go through the various votes that have not been carried yet, in case we have some questions to ask them. If you will refer to page 10 of the supplementary estimates, we will start with Indian Affairs and Northern Development.

[*Interprétation*]

crois que le Ministre n'y était pas lorsque nous l'avons étudié.

Le président: Lequel?

M. Skoberg: Le crédit 15b, à la page 20 du Budget supplémentaire.

Le président: Ce crédit a été adopté.

M. Skoberg: Je voudrais tout simplement poser une brève question.

Le président: Quelle est la question? Nous verrons.

M. Skoberg: Le ministre peut-il nous dire si les montants versés au National Canadien, à la première partie de ce crédit, serviront aux réclamations de la *Great Slave Lake*?

M. Hellyer: Il est impossible de répondre, car si les réclamations sont réglées de bon gré ou devant un tribunal, et que les frais sont plus élevés, il y aurait alors des dépenses accrues et un déficit plus élevé, de sorte qu'il paraîtrait au bilan, mais...

M. Skoberg: En fait, ces réclamations n'ont pas été réglées devant un tribunal, et ne sont pas devant aucun tribunal.

M. Hellyer: Certaines ont été réglées.

M. Skoberg: Je parle de celles qui ne le sont pas.

M. Hellyer: Je crains de ne pouvoir répondre.

M. Skoberg: A qui faudrait-il s'adresser pour avoir une réponse?

M. Hellyer: Le CN est représenté ici, avec son rapport annuel. Ce serait le moment de leur poser la question.

Le président: On pourrait peut-être mettre la question à l'ordre du jour.

M. Skoberg: Non, nous avons déjà essayé de le faire.

Le président: Merci, monsieur le ministre.

Alors, maintenant, si les fonctionnaires veulent bien rester avec nous un petit moment encore, pour que nous puissions reprendre les crédits qui n'ont pas encore été adoptés, au cas où nous aurions encore quelques questions à leur poser. Si vous voulez bien vous reporter à la page 10 du Budget supplémentaire, nous commencerons par les Affaires indiennes et du Nord canadien.

[*Text*]

Items 5b, 20b, 30b, 35b and 36b agreed to.

The Chairman: Any officials from the Department of Indians Affairs and Northern Development may leave now. All your estimates are agreed to.

We now go to page 12, Vote 12b, Labour Standards and Benefits.

An hon. Member: On division.

Item 12b agreed to an division.

The Chairman: We now return to page 26.

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): Mr. Chairman, I believe Item 25b on page 14...

The Chairman: I have it here as agreed to.

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): Well, it is a statutory extension and it was deferred at the time when Mr. Cloutier agreed with me that it was a statutory extension...

The Chairman: I am sorry, it was agreed to.

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): Well, it was marked here.

Mr. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): I have it too. However, Mr. Chairman, we will not stand in the way.

The Chairman: Now, back to page 26—the item that we went through this morning without having a quorum—and Item L3b—Loans to Eldorado Nuclear Limited.

Items L3b and L22b agreed to.

Item L27b agreed to an division.

Items L32b, L35b, L65b, L82b, L83b, L103b, LL104b, agreed to.

Item L107b agreed to on division.

Item L110b agreed to.

• 1655

Items L116b, L117b. L118b and L119b agreed to on division.

The Chairman: Mr. Robinson asked a question and we have the answer now.

Mr. Robinson: Very good. I will be glad to hear it.

Mr. Cloutier: This had to do with the Solicitor General's Scholarship Program.

The Chairman: What was the item, Mr. Cloutier?

Mr. Cloutier: Item 1b under Solicitor General on page 18.

The first question was whether the program applied to Canadians only. The program has been applied to Canadians only up to now and

[*Interpretation*]

Les crédits 5b, 20b, 30b, 35b et 36b sont adoptés.

Le président: Les fonctionnaires du Ministère des Affaires indiennes et du Nord canadien peuvent s'en aller, s'ils le désirent, tout leur budget est adopté.

Bon, maintenant à la page 12, crédit 12b, Normes de Travail et Prestations.

Une voix: Sur division.

Le crédit 12b est adopté sur division.

Le président: Maintenant, revenons à la page 26.

M. Lambert (Edmonton-Ouest): Monsieur le président, le crédit 25b à la page 14.

Le président: Cela a été adopté.

M. Lambert (Edmonton-Ouest): C'est une extension statutaire et il a été déféré lorsque M. Cloutier a accepté avec moi que ce soit une extension statutaire.

Le président: Je suis désolé il a été adopté.

M. Lambert (Edmonton-Ouest): Mais, il était marqué ici.

M. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Je l'ai également. Cependant, monsieur le président, nous ne ferons pas opposition.

Le président: Donc, maintenant, page 26. Le crédit que nous avons étudié ce matin, alors que nous n'avions pas le quorum, crédit L3b—Prêts à la Société Eldorado Nuclear.

Les crédits L3b et L22b sont adoptés.

Le crédit L27b est adopté sur division.

Les crédits L32b, L35b, L65b, L82b, L83b, L103b, L104b sont adoptés.

Le crédit L107b est adopté sur division.

Le crédit L110b est adopté.

Les crédits L116b, L117b, L118b et L119b sont adoptés sur division.

Le président: M. Robinson a posé une question et nous avons la réponse maintenant à lui donner.

M. Robinson: Je serai heureux de l'entendre.

M. Cloutier: Il s'agissait du programme de bourses du Solliciteur général.

Le président: Il s'agissait de quel crédit, M. Cloutier?

M. Cloutier: Le crédit 1b, sous Solliciteur général, à la page 18. La première question demandait si le programme intéressait les Canadiens seulement. Jusqu'à présent il n'a été appliqué qu'à des Canadiens. Et on n'a

[*Texte*]

it is not now intended to award scholarships to any other person than a Canadian. On the other hand, the regulations under which the program operated does not specifically preclude a scholarship being given to non-Canadians.

The second question, had to do with the number of students. There are 10 in number. Their home towns are: three from Montreal, two from Ottawa and one from Quebec City, Armdale, Nova Scotia, Sarnia, Ontario, Toronto and Winnipeg. The universities that these students are attending are McGill, Montreal, the Maritime School of Social Work, Carleton University, the University of Ottawa and the University of Manitoba. These are 10 students on the program this year. Three of those are expected to graduate at the end of the current academic year and the Department expects to replace these three with three more that is three new students entering their postgraduate studies. So that next year they would also have a total of 10 scholarships.

The manner in which the scholarships were administered this year provided for payment being made on the basis of one-twelfth of the $2,500 per month of studies, the balance from the $2,500 having been put into a fund to finance the travelling expenses of the students and their dependents, where applicable. Next year it is expected to give an outright scholarship of $2,500 for the whole year and to finance the travelling expenses of the individuals concerned and their dependents by means of the difference between $32,000 and $25,000.

Mr. Robinson: I do understand that this is a one year course only.

Mr. Cloutier: No, sir. Of course this may vary between universities, but my understanding is that it is more than a one year course. You see, there are 10 now and only three will graduate this coming June.

Mr. Robinson: How many years do they continue to get $2,500 per year?

Mr. Cloutier: These are all studying for a Masters degree and usually this is a two-year course.

Mr. Robinson: So that any student on this program receiving assistance would receive $2,500 a year for each year on the program, and if it is a two year program they receive $5,000.

Mr. Cloutier: And then one enters into a commitment to come to work for the Solicitor General, the National Parole Board of the Canadian Penitentiary Service for a period of two years.

[*Interprétation*]

pas l'intention de donner des bourses à d'autres que des Canadiens. Cependant, les Règlements qui gouvernent le programme n'empêchent pas nécessairement l'attribution de bourses à des personnes autres que des Canadiens.

La seconde question concernait le nombre d'étudiants. Il y en a 10. Trois viennent de Montréal, deux d'Ottawa, et un de chacune de ces villes, Québec, Armdale (N.-É.), Sarnia (Ontario), Toronto et Winnipeg. Les universités où ces étudiants font leurs études sont McGill, Montréal, l'école maritime des études sociales, l'université Carleton, l'université d'Ottawa et l'université du Manitoba. Il y a dix étudiants au programme cette année dont trois doivent recevoir leur diplôme à la fin de l'année scolaire, et le ministère s'attend à les remplacer par trois étudiants qui commencent leurs études avancées. Donc, il y aura de nouveau dix boursiers l'an prochain.

Cette année, on a prévu le versement sur la base d'un douzième de $2,500 par mois d'études, le solde étant versé dans une caisse pour financer les frais de voyage des étudiants et de leur famille lorsqu'ils en ont. Llannée prochaine, nous verserons sans doute la totalité de la bourse de $2,500 et nous financerons les frais de déplacement des étudiants et de leurs personnes à charge, avec la différence entre $32,000 et $25,000.

M. Robinson: Est-ce qu'il s'agit d'un cours d'une année?

M. Cloutier: Non. Cela peut varier avec les universités, mais le cours est généralement de plus d'un an. Il y en a dix en ce moment, et trois seulement auront leur diplôme cette année.

M. Robinson: Pendant combien d'années reçoivent-ils les $2,500?

M. Cloutier: Ce sont des étudiants qui préparent leur maîtrise; il leur faut donc en général deux ans.

M. Robinson: Donc, tout étudiant qui reçoit l'assistance reçoit $2,500 pour chaque année du programme et en tout $5,000.

M. Cloutier: Et ensuite, il s'engage à travailler pour le Solliciteur général, pour le conseil des libérations sur parole ou pour le service pénitentiaire canadien pendant deux ans.

[*Text*]

Mr. Robinson: Oh, it is two years. I understood this morning it was only one year.

Mr. Cloutier: The commitment is for one year for each year of assistance. If a fellow receives assistance only in his last year of his two or three year course, depending on what is being offered at the university, then his commitment would be only for as many years as he has received the scholarship.

Mr. Robinson: Thank you. That was not clear this morning, Mr. Chairman, and I was very glad to receive that answer.

• 1700

Mr. Cloutier: I am sorry that I was not clear this morning, sir.

The Chairman: Mr. McCutcheon.

Mr. McCutcheon: I think Mr. Levesque was getting me something on "Tropospheric scatter terminal station at Frobisher, N.W.T."

Mr. Cloutier: Oh, I did find out, sir. Do you still have that piece of paper?

Mr. McCutcheon: I do not want to delay the Committee.

Mr. Cloutier: No, it is all right.

Mr. McCutcheon: I have an inquiring mind about certain things.

Mr. Cloutier: I even have a little diagram here. It is a radio station used for transmission and reception of telephone, telegram, telegraph and data traffic. It is used for long distance beyond the line of sight. The signal is scattered all over the first level of the troposphere. Some of the signal escapes but enough of the signal comes downward enabling reception, with high gain antennas, to pick up without the use of repeater stations. It is a multichannel affair.

Mr. McCutcheon: I see.

The Chairman: That is very technical, but we know what it is now.

Mr. McCutcheon: I thank you very much. I know what it is anyway.

Mr. Cloutier: In other words, it gets the message over long distances over the curve of the horizon, by shooting it up against this troposphere and some of it comes down; enough of it comes down that you can pick it up.

The Chairman: Thank you very much, gentlemen. We will make the last report tomorrow to the House. Later we will convene again, probably to study Bill C-172 that passed second reading in the House. Mr. Lambert?

[*Interpretation*]

M. Robinson: Pendant deux ans, j'avais compris ce matin que c'était un an.

M. Cloutier: Non, il s'engage pour un an pour chaque année d'études qu'on lui permet de faire. Si on l'aide pour la dernière année d'étude seulement, cela dépend du cours qu'il suit, eh bien, il ne devra engagé que pour un an.

M. Robinson: Merci. Je n'avais pas très bien compris cela ce matin; M. le président, je suis très heureux de la réponse.

M. Cloutier: Je suis désolé que vous n'avez pas compris.

Le président: M. McCutcheon.

M. McCutcheon: Il me semble que M. Lévesque devait me donner quelques renseignements sur la station terminale de diffusion troposphérique de Frobisher (T. N.-O.).

M. Cloutier: Oui, oui. J'ai eu ce renseignement. Avez-vous encore le papier.

M. McCutcheon: Je ne veux pas vous retarder.

M. Cloutier: Non, ça ne fait rien.

M. McCutcheon: J'aimerais savoir exactement de quoi il s'agit.

M. Cloutier: J'ai même un petit dessin ici. C'est une station de radio pour la transmission et la réception des coups de téléphone, des télégrammes, d'autres messages. Elle est utilisée pour les longues distances. Le signal est diffusé dans toute la troposphère. Une partie du signal est perdue, mais une partie suffisante est réfléchie vers la terre pour recevoir des messages avec des antennes à haute réceptivité sans se servir de stations de relais. Il y a plusieurs canaux.

M. McCutcheon: Je vois.

Le président: C'est très technique, mais maintenant nous savons ce que c'est.

M. McCutcheon: Merci, maintenant je sais ce que c'est.

M. Cloutier: Autrement dit, le poste reçoit des messages longues distances, par-dessus la ligne d'horizon. Le signal monte à une certaine hauteur et redescend vers la terre.

Le président: Merci messieurs. Nous ferons notre dernier rapport à la Chambre demain et plus tard nous nous réunirons de nouveau pour étudier le Bill C-172.

[*Texte*]

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): To your report, Mr. Chairman, I wish to add two points. First of all, I move that:

> The Committee expresses its concern at the extensive use of $1 items for the purpose of statutory amendments, particularly in final Supplementary Estimates which are under time limits as to examination in the Standing Committee and for debate in the House. Appropriate legislative amendments should be made in all but the most exceptional and urgent cases.

Motion agreed to.

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): I have another one here. I also move that:

> The Committee also noted with concern an even greater use of $1 items for the transfer of moneys from one account to another. In a number of cases an underexpended item served as a prolific source of funds for unrelated purposes in the same Ministry.

Motion agreed to on division.

The Chairman: Thank you again, gentlemen.

An hon. Member: We would like to thank you, Mr. Chairman, for your very pleasant manner and the way you looked after this.

The Chairman: It is very nice of you; thank you. Also, of course, we wish to thank the witness.

[*Interprétation*]

M. Lambert (Edmonton-Ouest): Monsieur le président, à notre rapport, je voudrais ajouter les deux points suivants:

D'abord, je propose que:

> Le Comité se préoccupe de l'abus des crédits de 1 dollar pour les modifications statutaires surtout quand il s'agit des dernières prévisions budgétaires supplémentaires qui doivent être étudiées en vitesse par le Comité permanent et discutées à la Chambre. Il faudrait apporter des modifications législatives convenables partout mais surtout dans les cas exceptionnels et urgents.

Proposition adoptée.

M. Lambert (Edmonton-Ouest): Ensuite, je propose également que:

> Le Comité se préoccupe aussi de l'utilisation abusive des crédits de 1 dollar pour le transfert d'argent d'un compte à un autre. Dans un certain nombre de cas, des affectations non totalement distribuées ont servi comme source prolifique de fonds à des fins non connexes au sein d'un même ministère.

Proposition adoptée sur division.

Le président: Merci, messieurs.

Une voix: Nous vous remercions, M. le président, pour la façon très habile dont vous avez conduit ces débats.

Le président: Merci. C'est très gentil à vous. Naturellement, nous remercions aussi le témoin.

OFFICIAL BILINGUAL ISSUE

HOUSE OF COMMONS

First Session

Twenty-eighth Parliament, 1968-69

FASCICULE BILINGUE OFFICIEL

CHAMBRE DES COMMUNES

Première session de la

vingt-huitième législature, 1968-1969

STANDING COMMITTEE

ON

MISCELLANEOUS ESTIMATES

COMITÉ PERMANENT

DES

PRÉVISIONS BUDGÉTAIRES EN GÉNÉRAL

Chairman M. Fernand E. Leblanc *Président*

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS AND EVIDENCE

PROCÈS-VERBAUX ET TÉMOIGNAGES

No. 10

TUESDAY, MARCH 11, 1969

LE MARDI 11 MARS 1969

Respecting

BILL C-172,

An Act to amend the Financial Administration Act.

Concernant le

BILL C-172,

Loi modifiant la Loi sur l'administration financière.

WITNESSES—TÉMOINS

(See Minutes of Proceedings) *(Voir Procès-verbaux)*

The Queen's Printer, Ottawa, 1969
L'Imprimeur de la Reine, Ottawa, 1969

OFFICIAL BILINGUAL ISSUE

HOUSE OF COMMONS

First Session

Twenty-eighth Parliament, 1968-69

FASCICULE BILINGUE OFFICIEL

CHAMBRE DES COMMUNES

Première session de la

vingt-huitième législature, 1968-1969

STANDING COMMITTEE

ON

MISCELLANEOUS ESTIMATES

COMITÉ PERMANENT

DES

PRÉVISIONS BUDGÉTAIRES EN GÉNÉRAL

Chairman M. Fernand E. Leblanc *Président*

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS AND EVIDENCE

PROCÈS-VERBAUX ET TÉMOIGNAGES

No. 10

TUESDAY, MARCH 11, 1969

LE MARDI 11 MARS 1969

Respecting

BILL C-172,

An Act to amend the Financial Administration Act.

Concernant le

BILL C-172,

Loi modifiant la Loi sur l'administration financière.

WITNESSES—TÉMOINS

(See Minutes of Proceedings)

(Voir Procès-verbaux)

The Queen's Printer, Ottawa, 1969
L'Imprimeur de la Reine, Ottawa, 1969

29985—1

STANDING COMMITTEE
ON
MISCELLANEOUS ESTIMATES

COMITÉ PERMANENT
DES
PRÉVISIONS BUDGÉTAIRES
EN GÉNÉRAL

Chairman: M. Fernand-E. Leblanc *Président.*
Vice-Chairman: M. Aurélien Noël *Vice-président.*

and Messrs. et MM.

Alkenbrack,
Crossman,
[6] Gillespie,
Goode,
Guay (Lévis),
Gundlock,
Lambert (*Edmonton West*),
[4] Marchand (*Kamloops-Cariboo*)
McCutcheon,
Nystrom,
[3] Ouellet,
Paproski,
Peddle,
[5] Penner,
Robinson,
Rodrigue,
Roy (*Timmins*),
Thomson (*Battleford-Kindersley*)—20.

Le secrétaire du Comité,

D. E. Levesque

Clerk of the Committee.

Pursuant to S.O. 65(4)(*b*)

Conformément à l'article 65(4)(*b*) du Règlement

[3] M. Clermont a remplacé M. Ouellet le 11 mars 1969

[4] M. Rochon a remplacé M. Marchand (Kamloops) le 11 mars 1969

[5] M. Guilbault a remplacé M. Penner le 11 mars 1969

[6] M. LeBlanc (Rimouski) a remplacé M. Gillespie le 11 mars 1969

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

(*Text*)

TUESDAY, March 11, 1969.

(11)

The Standing Committee on Miscellaneous Estimates met this day at 3.50 o'clock p.m. The Chairman, Mr. Fernand Leblanc, presiding.

Members present: Messrs. Alkenbrack, Clermont, Crossman, Goode, LeBlanc (*Rimouski*), Leblanc (*Laurier*), Nystrom, Robinson, Rochon, Rodrigue, Thomson (*Battleford-Kindersley*)—(11).

Also present: Mr. A. D. Hales, Member of Parliament.

Witness: The Honourable C. M. Drury, President of the Treasury Board.

The Chairman read the Order of Reference and introduced the Honourable C. M. Drury and Messrs. W. B. Brittain, Assistant Secretary; E. W. Jay, Financial Management Adviser of the Treasury Board.

The Minister made a statement and the Committee proceeded to the clause by clause study of Bill C-172, An Act to amend the Financial Administration Act.

Clause 1 was allowed to stand.

After discussion, Clauses 2 to 7 inclusive were carried.

At 5.50 o'clock p.m., the Committee adjourned to Thursday, March 13, 1969.

PROCÈS-VERBAL

(*Traduction*)

Le MARDI 11 mars 1969.

(11)

Le Comité permanent des prévisions budgétaires en général se réunit cet après-midi à 3 h. 50, sous la présidence de M. Fernand Leblanc, président.

Présents: MM. Alkenbrack, Clermont, Crossman, Goode, LeBlanc (*Rimouski*), Leblanc (*Laurier*), Nystrom, Robinson, Rochon, Rodrigue, Thomson (*Battleford-Kindersley*)—(11).

De même que: M. A. D. Hales, député.

Témoin: L'honorable C. M. Drury, président du Conseil du Trésor.

Le président lit l'ordre de renvoi, puis il présente l'honorable C. M. Drury, ainsi que MM. W. B. Brittain, secrétaire adjoint, et E. W. Jay, conseiller en gestion financière du Conseil du Trésor.

Le Ministre fait une déclaration, puis le Comité passe à l'examen article par article du Bill C-172, Loi modifiant la Loi sur l'administration financière.

L'article 1 est réservé.

Après débat, les articles 2 à 7 inclusivement son adoptés.

A 5 h. 50 de l'après-midi, le Comité s'ajourne jusqu'au jeudi 13 mars 1969.

Le secrétaire du Comité,

D. E. Levesque,

Clerk of the Committee.

29985—1½

(Text)

(II)

The Standing Committee on Miscellaneous Estimates met this day at 3.50 o'clock p.m. The Chairman, Mr. Fernand Leblanc, presiding.

Members present: Messrs. Allenbrack, Clermont, Crossman, Goode, LeBlanc (Rimouski), Leblanc (Laurier), Nystrom, Robinson, Rochon, Rodrigue, Thomson (Battle River—Camrose)—(11).

Also present: Mr. A. D. Hales, Member of Parliament.

Witness: The Honourable C. M. Drury, President of the Treasury Board.

The Chairman read the Order of Reference and introduced the Honourable C. M. Drury and Messrs. W. B. Brittain, Assistant Secretary; E. W. Jay, Financial Management Adviser of the Treasury Board.

The Minister made a statement and the Committee proceeded to the clause by clause study of Bill C-172, An Act to amend the Financial Administration Act.

Clause 1 was allowed to stand.

After discussion, Clauses 2 to 7 inclusive were severally carried.

At 5.50 o'clock p.m., the Committee adjourned to Thursday, March 13, 1969.

Le secrétaire du Comité,

D. E. Levesque,

Clerk of the Committee.

(Traduction)

Le MARDI 11 mars 1969.

(II)

Le Comité permanent des prévisions budgétaires en général se réunit cet après-midi à 3 h. 50, sous la présidence de M. Fernand Leblanc, président.

Présents: MM. Allenbrack, Clermont, Crossman, Goode, LeBlanc (Rimouski), Leblanc (Laurier), Nystrom, Robinson, Rochon, Rodrigue, Thomson (Battle River—Camrose)—(11).

De même que: M. A.D. Hales, député.

Témoin: L'honorable C. M. Drury, président du Conseil du Trésor.

Le président lit l'ordre de renvoi, puis il présente l'honorable C. M. Drury, ainsi que MM. W. B. Brittain, secrétaire adjoint, et E. W. Jay, conseiller en gestion financière du Conseil du Trésor.

Le Ministre fait une déclaration, puis le Comité passe à l'examen article par article du Bill C-172, Loi modifiant la Loi sur l'administration financière.

L'article 1 est réservé.

Après débat, les articles 2 à 7 inclusive sont son adoptés.

A 5 h. 50 de l'après-midi, le Comité s'ajourne jusqu'au jeudi 13 mars 1969.

[*Text*]

EVIDENCE

(Recorded by Electronic Apparatus)

Tuesday, March 11, 1969.

• 1550

The Chairman: Gentlemen, on February 26, 1969 Bill C-172, An Act to amend the Financial Administration Act, was referred to the Standing Committee on Miscellaneous Estimates. We have that bill before us today.

We are pleased to have with us the Hon. Mr. Drury, President of the Treasury Board, who intends to make a general statement regarding the bill.

We also have the pleasure of having two other witnesses, Mr. Bruce Brittain, Acting Assistant Secretary, Management Improvement Branch, and Mr. Eric Jay, Financial Management Advisor, Chairman Management Improvement Branch. With your permission I will now call on the Honourable C.M. Drury for his statement. Mr. Drury.

Mr. Hales: Mr. Chairman, just before Mr. Drury gives his general outline, I was wondering if he might give the Committee some reasons why this bill was referred to the Miscellaneous Estimates Committee.

My recollections are that the last time the Financial Administration Act was amended, which was not too long ago, it was referred to Mr. Clermont's Committee, the Committee on Finance, Trade and Economic Affairs, and I would have thought that this Financial Administration Act should have been brought before that Committee rather than this. Perhaps there are some good reasons why it was referred to this Committee. Would you answer that question in your remarks, because the subject matter is that of finance. It deals with the Financial Administration Act and it would only be natural to think that it should go to the Committee on Finance, Trade and Economic Affairs.

Hon. C. M. Drury (President, Treasury Board): Mr. Chairman, I had not proposed to make a long statement in view of the fact that I did make a statement on second reading in the House which has been reported in Hansard.

[*Interpretation*]

TÉMOIGNAGES

[Enregistrement électronique]

Le jeudi 11 mars 1969.

[*Interprétation*]

Le président: Messieurs, le 26 février 1969, le projet de loi C-172, Loi modifiant la *Loi sur l'administration financière* a été renvoyé au comité permanent des Prévisions budgétaires en général. Ce projet nous est présenté aujourd'hui.

Nous sommes heureux d'avoir avec nous l'honorable M. Drury, président du Conseil du Trésor, qui va faire une déclaration générale sur ce projet de loi.

Nous avons également parmi nous deux autres témoins, M. Bruce Brittain, secrétaire adjoint par intérim de la Direction des réformes administratives et M. Eric Jay, conseiller de gestion financière de la Direction des réformes administratives. Avec votre permission, je vais maintenant donner la parole à M. Drury.

M. Hales: Avant que M. Drury nous fasse part de sa déclaration, je voudrais savoir s'il pourrait indiquer au Comité pourquoi ce projet de loi a été transféré au Comité des Prévisions budgétaires.

Je crois me rappeler que la dernière fois que la *Loi sur l'administration financière* a été amendée, ce qui ne remonte pas très loin, il a été renvoyé au comité de M. Clermont, c'est-à-dire au Comité des Finances, du commerce et des affaires économiques, et j'aurais cru, pour ma part, que cette *Loi sur l'administration financière* aurait dû être transmise à ce Comité plutôt que le nouveau projet de loi. Il y a peut-être des raisons valables à cela.

Aussi, pourriez-vous dans votre commentaire, répondre à cette question car il s'agit, en fin de compte, de questions financières? Cette question concerne la *Loi sur l'administration financière* et il est parfaitement normal de penser que ce projet devrait être renvoyé au Comité des finances, du commerce, et des affaires économiques.

M. C. M. Drury (Président du Conseil du Trésor): Eh bien, monsieur le président, je n'avais pas prévu faire une longue déclaration, étant donné que j'ai déjà fait une déclaration à la Chambre lors de la deuxième lecture, qui figure d'ailleurs au Hansard.

[*Text*]

The essence of the statement made to the House was that the amendments proposed here to the Financial Administration Act were inspired by, and continue to give effect, to recommendations contained in the Glassco Report.

One of these important philosophical suggestions was that there should be much greater decentralization of financial control and that those concerned with spending money and devising programs should be made directly responsible for accounting for them rather than having a centralized accounting system with the consequent removal of responsibility from the officers or officials charged with spending.

That is one of the purposes of the amendment before us here, and there are also consequential amendments arising out of the proposed Government Organization Act which is currently under study in the House in Committee of the Whole.

The bill itself is largely a technical one. It contains a great many clauses, a number of which relate merely to the changing of names or changing of dates in order to give effect to the Government Organization Bill and to a change in a concept in relation to the so-called pre-audit function and commitment functions within government. That is, to change the responsibility for accounting for this from one central official called the Comptroller of the Treasury to the deputy heads of departments, who are doing the actual administration of the programs.

• 1555

In respect of Mr. Hales' particular question, in the restructuring of the committees it is my understanding that this Committee, this particular Committee on Miscellaneous Estimates, will have referred to it the estimates and legislation relating to internal economy of Parliament and of the government. This will mean that this Committee will consider the estimates for the House of Commons and the Senate, for the Governor General and Lieutenant Governors, for the Privy Council Office and items which flow from that, and the estimates of the Treasury Board, all of which one might describe as housekeeping functions.

This Bill, C-172, is related almost entirely to internal—within the government—control measures. It is for this reason that the bill is referred to this Committee rather than to

[*Interpretation*]

L'essence de la déclaration faite à la Chambre était que les amendements proposés ici à la *Loi sur l'administration financière* étaient inspirés par les recommandations de la Commission Glassco.

L'un des éléments de base suggérés dans ce rapport est qu'il devait y avoir une plus grande décentralisation du contrôle financier, et que les personnes chargées de dépenser l'argent et d'élaborer les programmes devraient être directement responsables de cette comptabilité, au lieu d'avoir un système de compatibilité centralisé, ce qui, bien sûr, entraînerait la suppression des responsabilités pour les agents et fonctionnaires chargés des dépenses.

C'est un des buts principaux de cet amendement qui nous est présenté; il y a également d'autres amendements dans le cadre de la *Loi sur l'organisation du gouvernement* qui est encore à l'étude dans un Comité plénier de la Chambre.

Le projet lui-même est surtout un projet d'ordre technique et il comprend un grand nombre d'articles dont un certain nombre portent surtout sur les changements de noms ou de dates de façon à valider la *Loi sur l'organisation du gouvernement* et à y apporter un changement dans la conception de ce qu'on appelle la fonction pré-vérification et la fonction engagement de fonds au sein du gouvernement. Plus précisément, le changement aura pour effet de transférer la responsabilité de la comptabilité d'un fonctionnaire central appelé le Contrôleur du Trésor aux chefs délégués des ministères qui sont responsables de l'administration des programmes.

Maintenant, en rapport avec la question de M. Hales concernant la restructuration des comités, j'ai cru comprendre que ce Comité, c'est-à-dire le Comité sur les prévisions budgétaires, sera saisi des prévisions et des projets de loi portant sur l'économie dans le fonctionnement du Parlement et du gouvernement. Cela veut dire que ce Comité va étudier les prévisions de la Chambre des communes et du Sénat, du gouverneur général et des lieutenants-gouverneurs, du Bureau de Conseil privé et des postes qui en découlent ainsi que des prévisions budgétaires du Conseil du Trésor: on peut considérer que toutes ces prévisions sont, en quelque sorte, d'ordre interne.

Ce projet C-172 porte presque entièrement sur des mesures de contrôle interne c'est-à-dire au sein du gouvernement. C'est pour cette raison que le Comité a été saisi de ce

[*Texte*]

Finance, Trade and Economic Affairs, which has rather more relevance or relationship to financial measures related to the public rather than to the internal operations of the government.

The Chairman: Does that reply to your question, Mr. Hales?

Mr. Hales: Partially. The Finance Committee amended this Act the last time and I thought that the committee that went over the amendments last time should be amending it this time. They would be more familiar with the Act and what they did previously, and it would be more in keeping with...

The Chairman: When were these last amendments that you are referring to, Mr. Hales?

Mr. Hales: In 1966 and 1967.

The Chairman: I think that our Committee was not operating in 1966. Miscellaneous Estimates was created as a committee only in 1967, if I remember well, or perhaps at the end of 1966. It is a rather new committee, as you know.

Mr. Hales: I just bring that point forward.

The Chairman: Yes, certainly.

Mr. Hales: While we are on that point of committee examining these amendments, I think it would be well to let the Committee on Public Accounts go over this briefly too before it is finalized. There are a number of recommendations which the Public Accounts Committee have made from time to time that are wrapped up in these amendments. Some have been taken care of and some have been left out. I know that that Committee would appreciate having the opportunity to look at this before it is finalized.

Mr. Drury: Mr. Chairman, we hope to get this Government Organization Bill and the companion piece, this bill, into legislation prior to March 31 to start out the new fiscal year on the new dispensation.

While I can understand that the Committee on Public Accounts has an interest in some of its provisions, I think there would probably be other committees that would also be interested, and if any committee that has an interest is going to study it there will be no end to this. I think that perhaps one should rely on the good offices of the Chairman of the Public Accounts Committee to communicate...

[*Interprétation*]

projet de loi plutôt que le Comité des Finances, du commerce et des affaires économiques, qui s'occupe plutôt de mesures financières affectant le public en général et non le fonctionnement interne du gouvernement.

Le président: Est-ce que cela répond à votre question, monsieur Hales?

M. Hales: En partie, oui. Le Comité des finances a amendé cette Loi la dernière fois et j'ai pensé que le Comité qui avait procédé aux amendements précédents aurait pu poursuivre le même travail cette fois-ci. En effet, les gens composant ce Comité connaissent mieux la question et ils seraient plus à même de suivre la situation.

Le président: Quand est-ce que cela s'est passé, monsieur Hales?

M. Hales: C'était en 1966 et en 1967.

Le président: Je pense que notre comité n'était pas constitué en 1966. Il n'a été constitué qu'en 1967, si je me souviens bien, ou peut-être à la fin de 1966. En fait, c'est un comité assez récent, comme vous le savez.

M. Hales: Je voulais simplement soulever cette question...

Le président: Oui...

M. Hales: Et puisque nous étudions cette question, je pense qu'il serait opportun que le comité des Comptes publics étudie également cette question avant de le rédiger sous sa forme définitive, parce qu'il y a un certain nombre de recommandations faites par le Comité des comptes publics et qui sont incorporées, dans ces amendements. Certaines ont été conservées, d'autres ont été supprimées. Je pense que les Comptes publics aimeraient jeter un coup d'œil avant la version définitive.

M. Drury: Monsieur le président, nous espérons que le projet de loi sur l'organisation du gouvernement, ainsi que l'annexe, c'est-à-dire, ce projet de loi, seront incorporés dans le programme législatif avant le 31 mars de sorte que nous pourrons commencer la nouvelle année financière en utilisant ces nouvelles dispositions. Je comprends que le comité des Comptes publics ait un certain intérêt dans la chose, mais je crois que d'autres comités y seraient également intéressés. Et, si tous les comités qui s'y intéressent doivent étudier le projet de loi, il n'y aura jamais de fin. Je pense qu'il faudrait plutôt demander au Président du Comité des comptes publics de communiquer... Je pense qu'il faudrait compter sur les...

[*Text*]

Mr. Hales: That is fine here but I do not like to take the full responsibility in the Committee. I would rather have the members of the Committee taking the responsibility.

The Chairman: Mr. Crossman?

Mr. Crossman: Mr. Chairman, according to Mr. Hale's remarks, would this not be establishing a precedent where a bill would have to go to two or three committees before being reported to the House? I cannot see why one committee could not deal with the matter.

The Chairman: Mr. Hales, I do not want to cut in but our Committee has an order from the House and I think we will proceed to examine Bill C-172.

First I would refer you to the Standing Orders of the House of Commons of Canada of January 1969, 75 (1):

> In proceedings in any committee of the House upon bills, the preamble is first postponed, and if the first clause contains
> • 1600
> only a short title it is also postponed; then every other clause is considered by the committee in its proper order

I just want to have the opinion of the Committee regarding our Clause 1, which is not only a short title. We are just wondering if we could not start with Clause 1.

Mr. Thomson.

Mr. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Mr. Chairman, we can discuss anything under Clause 1. Am I correct? Anything pertaining to the bill, I mean.

The Chairman: Yes, pertaining to the bill and pertaining to Clause 1, I think, if we accept it as a regular clause. If we accept it as a clause that we stand until the end of the bill, that is different.

Mr. Hales: Mr. Chairman, what you are saying is that if we stand Clause 1 then the whole Act remains open until we settle Clause 1. Is that right?

The Chairman: That is the usual procedure.

Mr. Hales: I would move that we stand Clause 1

Clause 1 stood.

Clauses 2 and 3 agreed to.

[*Interpretation*]

M. Hales: D'accord, mais je ne veux pas prendre toute la responsabilité dans cette question. J'aimerais mieux que les membres du Comité s'en chargent.

Le président: Monsieur Crossman.

M. Crossman: Si on accepte la proposition de M. Hales, est-ce que ça ne serait pas créer un précédent que de faire passer un projet de loi par deux ou trois comités avant de le présenter à la Chambre. Je ne vois pas pourquoi un seul comité ne peut faire l'affaire.

Le président: Monsieur Hales, je ne veux pas vous interrompre sans raison, mais nous avons ici un décret de la Chambre nous demandant d'étudier cette question et si vous le permettez, on pourrait commencer à examiner le projet de loi C-172. Mais, je voudrais d'abord me reporter au Règlement de la Chambre des Communes, de janvier 1969, article 75 (1):

> Lors de l'étude de bills par un comité de la Chambre, on reporte d'abord à plus tard l'étude du préambule puis celle du
>
> premier article si celui-ci ne vise que le titre abrégé; le comité étudie ensuite chacun des autres articles dans l'ordre.

Alors, je voudrais demander l'avis du Comité en ce qui concerne l'article qui n'est pas seulement un titre court. Je voudrais savoir, malgré tout, si on pourrait commencer par l'article 1.

Monsieur Thomson.

M. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Monsieur le président, on pourrait discuter de n'importe quoi dans le cas de l'article 1, n'est-ce pas? Enfin, qui touche au projet de loi?

Le président: Oui, tout ce qui touche au projet de loi et à l'article 1, si nous considérons cet article comme un article ordinaire. Mais, si l'on considère que c'est un article qui doit être étudié à la fin, alors c'est différent.

M. Hales: Monsieur le président, ce que vous voulez dire n'est-ce pas, c'est que, si on réserve l'article 1, toute la Loi restera en suspens tant que l'article 1 ne sera pas voté.

Le président: C'est la manière habituelle de procéder.

M. Hales: Je propose alors que l'on réserve l'article 1.

L'article 1 est réservé.

Les articles 2 et 3 sont adoptés.

[*Texte*]

On Clause 4.

Mr. Hales: I would like to ask Mr. Drury a question concerning Clause 4. It says in the explanatory notes:

> This amendment would delete the provision relating to staffing of the Department of Finance and would abolish the office of Comptroller of the Treasury.

If this clause abolishes the Office of the Comptroller what will become of the staff and the Comptroller himself?

Mr. Drury: The individual will be transferred to the Department of Supply and Services from the Department of Finance, and his staff will go along with him. The Minister of Supply and Services will have the additional title of Receiver General and this individual will function as the principal bookkeeper and cheque issuer for the government.

Mr. Hales: We are not abolishing, we are transferring.

Mr. Drury: We are abolishing the title Comptroller of the Treasury.

Mr. Hales: We are abolishing the title and transfering the staff.

Mr. Drury: That is correct.

Mr. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): To the Receiver General?

Mr. Drury: To the Receiver General who is the Minister in charge of the Department of Supply and Services.

Mr. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Since this deals with the position of the Comptroller previously, did I understand you to say that in this new setup each department—Agriculture, Public Works, National Defence and so on—will be responsible for all its own money and that the Treasury Board will no longer be responsible for this? Could I give you an illustration? Within automotive firms they have cost accounting sections within departments and each one in effect tries to make a profit and looks after its own books in this sense. I would like just a little more explanation in connection with what your intent is here. I have not discussed this bill previously.

Mr. Drury: Previously the arrangement was that the Comptroller of the Treasury in the Department of Finance, in essence, did the

[*Interprétation*]

Sur l'article 4.

M. Hales: J'aimerais poser une question à M. Drury au sujet de l'article 4. Dans les remarques explicatives, il est stipulé que:

> Cette modification supprimerait la disposition relative au recrutement du personnel du ministère des Finances et supprimerait le poste de contrôleur du Trésor.

Si l'article supprime le poste de contrôleur, que va-t-il advenir du contrôleur et de son personnel?

M. Drury: La personne en question sera mutée du ministère des Finances au ministère des Approvisionnements et Services et ses collaborateurs l'accompagneront. Le ministre des Approvisionnements et Services recevra, en outre, le titre de Receveur général et la personne en question remplira les fonctions de premier comptable et de préposé à l'émission des chèques pour le gouvernement.

M. Hales: Il ne s'agit pas de supprimer mais de transférer.

M. Drury: Il s'agit de supprimer le titre de contrôleur du Trésor.

M. Hales: Il s'agit de supprimer le titre et de muter les membres du personnel.

M. Drury: C'est exact.

M. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Au service du Receveur général?

M. Drury: Au service du Receveur général qui est le ministre des Approvisionnements et Services.

M. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Ai-je bien compris, lorsque l'on parlait auparavant du poste de contrôleur, que dans cette réorganisation, chaque ministère, que ce soit celui de l'Agriculture, des Travaux publics, de la Défense nationale, etc., sera tenu responsable de ses propres finances et non plus le Conseil du Trésor? Permettez-moi de vous citer un exemple.

Dans l'industrie de l'automobile, les entreprises comptent au nombre de leurs départements, des sections de comptabilité industrielle, et en fait, chacune essaie de faire des bénéfices ou du moins d'établir ses livres en fonction des bénéfices. J'aimerais que vous me donniez un peu plus de détails sur ce que vous comptez faire, étant donné que je n'ai pas assisté au début du débat sur le bill.

M. Drury: Il a été déterminé au début que le contrôleur du Trésor du ministère des Finances s'occuperait de la comptabilité du

[*Text*]

bookkeeping for the government. He had the function of receiving, banking and accounting for all monies received by the government.

The Receiver General will continue to perform that function, only instead of being the Minister of Finance he will now be the Minister of Supply and Services. Under the Minister of Finance the Comptroller of the Treasury had the responsibility for certifying that any proposed expenditure was in accordance with the appropriate act of parliament

• 1605

and that there were funds available to meet this expenditure. He also had the responsibility for maintaining books of account and the preparation of the public accounts. He will continue to have the function of organizing books of account and the preparation of the public accounts for the Minister of Finance. He will not continue, however, to be charged with the responsibility for certifying that all proposed expenditures are in accordance with the appropriate act of parliament. Responsibility for this will be laid directly on the shoulders of the deputy head of the department. That means that the man who is proposing programs and administering them, if they are approved by parliament, will also be responsible for implementing them only to the extent that parliament votes the funds therefor.

He will not be able to rely on a certificate provided by some other official that the proposed expenditure does indeed conform to parliamentary votes.

Mr. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): In effect then, Mr. Chairman, all we are really talking about is the certifying end; we are not talking cost accounting.

Mr. Drury: No, we are not.

Mr. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): All right. I just wanted to make that clear. Thank you.

Mr. Drury: If I may just add to what I said, the responsibility of seeing that there are adequate cost accounting systems within departments has been and continues to reside in the Treasury Board.

Mr. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Thank you. I am glad to get this cleared up.

Mr. Robinson: Mr. Chairman, my understanding of this section in effect is that in the past the Comptroller has been able to dele-

[*Interpretation*]

gouvernement. Il aura pour rôle de recevoir, de mettre en banque et de comptabiliser l'argent reçu par le gouvernement.

Le Receveur général va continuer ce rôle, mais au lieu d'être ministre des Finances, il sera maintenant ministre des Approvisionnements et Services. Sous la direction du ministre des Finances, le contrôleur du Trésor était chargé de certifier que tout projet de dépense était conforme à la Loi prévue à cet effet et qu'il y avait des fonds pour couvrir les dépenses. Il était également chargé de tenir les livres de comptabilité et de préparer les comptes publics. Il s'occupera encore des livres de comptabilité et de la préparation des comptes publics pour le ministre des Finances, mais il ne sera plus chargé de garantir la conformité de tous les projets de dépenses aux lois parlementaires appropriées. La responsabilité reposera dorénavant sur les épaules du sous-ministre. Si les programmes sont approuvés par le Parlement, la personne qui les propose et les administre, sera aussi chargée de les mettre à exécution, seulement dans la mesure où le Parlement votera les fonds à cet effet.

Il ne pourra pas compter sur un certificat délivré par quelque haut fonctionnaire pour attester que les projets de dépenses sont en effet conformes aux crédits votés par le Parlement.

M. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): En fait, monsieur le président, ce dont on parle vraiment, c'est de certification; on ne parle pas de comptabilité?

M. Drury: Non. Absolument pas.

M. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Très bien. Je voulais seulement m'en assurer. Merci.

M. Drury: Si vous me permettez, j'ajouterai quelques mots à ce que j'ai dit auparavant. Le Conseil du Trésor a déjà été chargé de voir à ce que la comptabilité analytique d'exploitation soit appropriée, et il continuera de s'en occuper.

M. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Merci; je suis heureux que vous ayez éclairci ce point.

M. Robinson: Monsieur le président, ce que je crois comprendre, c'est que, dans le passé, le contrôleur avait la possibilité d'affecter ses

[*Texte*]

gate his own staff to various departments with the idea that they can check on the department in terms of how they are spending money, how they are carrying out programs and so on, so that he would be able to investigate what they are doing and how they are doing it. Do I understand that this will still continue, only it will be under a different name?

Mr. Drury: No, the Comptroller of the Treasury has not had this function. He and his officers were bookkeepers, which they will continue to be. The only, if you like, management function in relation to expenditures was to provide a certificate, before any action could be taken, that the proposed expenditure was in accordance with the Appropriation Act.

Mr. Robinson: Could you explain to me then Subsection 13 of the present Act, which states...

The Chairman: What page are you at, Mr. Robinson?

Mr. Robinson: On page 3.

The Chairman: We are not there yet; we are still on page 2. Is it related?

Mr. Robinson: Yes. It states:

> The Comptroller may station in any department any person employed in his office to enable him more effectively to carry out his duties, and the department shall provide the necessary office accommodation for any person so stationed.

Is this being done away with now so that there will not be this control, since you will no longer have the Comptroller nor these people acting on his behalf?

Mr. Drury: That is correct.

Mr. Robinson: Well then who or how will this function still be carried out?

Mr. Drury: I have tried to outline the function of so-called pre-audit, which means that before an expenditure can be authorized the Comptroller of the Treasury must certify that the proposed expenditure is in conformity with the Appropriation Act. The job of these officials within the department belonging to the Comptroller of the Treasury, for whom office space had to be provided, was to provide, on behalf of the Comptroller of the Treasury, this pre-audit or this certificate of appropriateness.

[*Interprétation*]

propres collaborateurs à différents ministères, étant entendu qu'ils pouvaient vérifier comment le ministère dépensait ses fonds, comment il exécutait ses programmes, etc., de telle sorte que le contrôleur pouvait vérifier lui-même ce que les ministères faisaient et la manière dont ils le faisaient. Dois-je comprendre que cet état de choses persistera et qu'il ne fera que changer de nom?

M. Drury: Non. Le contrôleur du Trésor ne remplissait pas cette fonction. Lui et ses collaborateurs étaient des comptables, fonction qu'ils vont continuer de remplir. Si vous voulez, le seul rôle de gestion relatif aux dépenses était de fournir un certificat, avant qu'aucune mesure ne soit prise, afin d'attester que la dépense projetée était conforme à la Loi des subsides.

M. Robinson: Est-ce que vous pouvez alors m'expliquer le paragraphe 13 de la présente loi qui stipule que. .

Le président: De quelle page parlez-vous, s'il vous plaît?

M. Robinson: De la page 3.

Le président: Nous n'y sommes pas encore. Nous sommes toujours à la page 2. Y a-t-il un lieu quelconque avec le sujet.

M. Robinson: Oui. Il est stipulé que:

> 13. Le contrôleur peut poster dans n'importe quel ministère toute personne employée dans son bureau, pour lui permettre de remplir plus efficacement ses devoirs, et le ministère doit fournir à une personne ainsi postée les facilités de bureau nécessaires.

Fait-on en sorte pour que ce contrôle n'existe plus dorénavant, étant donné qu'il n'y aura plus de contrôleur, ni de personnes pour agir en son nom?

M. Drury: C'est exact.

M. Robinson: Bon, alors, qui va remplir cette fonction et de quelle manière?

M. Drury: J'ai cherché à souligner le rôle de la vérification dite préalable, ce qui signifie qu'avant d'autoriser une dépense, le contrôleur du Trésor doit s'assurer que les projets de dépenses soient conformes à la Loi des subsides. Le travail des fonctionnaires du bureau du contrôleur du Trésor, à qui on devait offrir les facilités de bureau, était de faire au nom du contrôleur du Trésor, la vérification préalable ou le certificat de conformité.

[*Text*]

• 1610

In practice, what has happened is that a deputy head, before initiating action on a program, would require from his own officers a demonstration that the administrational program was in conformity with the appropriate Act. So, the regular officers of the Department did the work and then this officer who controlled the Treasury merely duplicated it and provided a certificate to the effect that he had duplicated it.

Mr. Robinson: Then, is there any check on the Deputy Minister who now has the responsibility for carrying this out?

Mr. Drury: Prior to the event there is no check from the outside. There is a vesting of responsibility in him for seeing that it is done and failure to do this is a failure to discharge his responsibilities. The check is made after the event through the normal audit.

The Chairman: Mr. Hales.

Mr. Hales: I have a supplementary on this point: the only way in which the Deputy Minister will be checked will be by the Auditor General, I presume?

Mr. Drury: When you say the only way, there is now, and has been for a great many years, a system of post audit, that is, auditing after the event, in the preparation of the public accounts which in turn are scrutinized by the Auditor General. This will continue. But it always has been done and will continue to be done.

Mr. Hales: Yes, but in the past the Comptroller General had an opportunity to double-check and say, "This bill should be paid or it should not be paid". The Comptroller General has gone, so that one officer disappeared and extra work will fall on the Auditor General to do a more complete audit to make sure that everything has been in order.

Mr. Drury: I do not think that this is so. What has been cut out is merely another group of people doing the same work twice, before the event. The obligations of the Auditor General or the need of the Auditor General to increase the post audit has not arisen at all.

Mr. Hales: If you are going to cut out a duplication of work, then you are going to

[*Interpretation*]

Ce qui se faisait, c'était que le sous-chef, avant de mettre en application un programme, demandait à ses propres collaborateurs de prouver que le programme en question était conforme à la Loi à cet égard. Autrement dit, les employés ordinaires du Ministère faisaient le gros du travail, puis l'agent de contrôle du Trésor se contentait de vérifier le travail et de fournir un certificat disant que la vérification avait été faite.

M. Robinson: Est-ce que l'on vérifie le travail du sous-ministre qui est maintenant chargé de l'exécution?

M. Drury: Non, il n'y a aucune vérification extérieure préalable. Le sous-ministre doit assumer la responsabilité de l'exécution, et, si le travail ne se fait pas comme il faut, c'est lui qui ne remplit pas ses attributions. Il y a une vérification ultérieure, selon la façon normale de procéder.

Le président: Monsieur Hales.

M. Hales: J'ai une question supplémentaire à ce sujet: je suppose que seul l'auditeur général vérifiera le travail du sous-ministre?

M. Drury: Vous dites que ce sera la seule vérification. Il y a actuellement, et il existe depuis bien des années, un système de vérification ultérieure des comptes, c'est-à-dire de vérification après coup, lors de la préparation des comptes publics, qui sont ensuite examinés de près par l'auditeur général. Cela continuera à se faire de la même manière. Cela s'est toujours fait, et continuera à se faire.

M. Hales: Oui, mais par le passé, le contrôleur général avait la possibilité de faire une double vérification et de dire: «cette somme doit être payée ou ne doit pas être payée». Maintenant, il n'y a plus de contrôleur général. Il y a ainsi un service de moins, et cela représente un surcroît de travail pour l'auditeur général, qui doit maintenant effectuer une vérification plus complète pour s'assurer que tout s'est fait comme il le fallait.

M. Drury: Non, je ne pense pas que ce soit le cas. En fait, ce qui a été supprimé, c'est simplement un groupe de personnes qui ne faisait que répéter le travail déjà fait. Les obligations de l'auditeur général n'ont pas augmenté, pas plus que la nécessité pour lui de faire une vérification postérieure plus complète.

M. Hales: Mais si vous supprimez le double emploi dans les services vous allez avoir des

[*Texte*]

have some employees who will be surplus to staff.

Mr. Drury: We would expect that.

Mr. Hales: And you said that this staff is being transferred.

Mr. Drury: They are.

Mr. Hales: To where would they be transferred.

Mr. Drury: The staff of the Controller of the Treasury now numbers some 5,400.

Mr. Hales: Fifty-four hundred!

Mr. Drury: Yes. It takes a lot of people to do this pre-audit; there are quite a few checkers. It is expected that by eliminating this pre-audit there will be a saving of about 1,100 man-years out of the 5,400. That is what we are aiming for.

Mr. Hales: You have 5,400 people to transfer?

Mr. Drury: The 5,400 people will be transferred or it just means they will be perhaps not physically transferred but responsible through a different hierarchy, and out of the 5,400, we would hope, as this system becomes operative, to require some 1,100 less man-years of work and those people will be available for duties elsewhere in the government in the kind of work for which they are qualified.

Mr. Hales: And you are still going to keep the present staff in the various departments who are now doing a certain amount of audit work in each department such as the Department of Agriculture which has an audit section?

Mr. Drury: That is correct.

• 1615

Mr. Hales: And now the men from the Comptroller's Section are going to move over into the Department of Agriculture to do the pre-audit work.

Mr. Drury: No, we are cutting out the pre-audit.

Mr. Hales: In the Department of Agriculture?

Mr. Drury: Yes.

[*Interprétation*]

excédents de personnel.

M. Drury: Nous nous y attendons.

M. Hales: Et vous avez dit que l'on s'occupait de transférer ce personnel?

M. Drury: Oui.

M. Hales: Où va-t-on l'envoyer?

M. Drury: Le personnel du contrôleur du Trésor compte actuellement quelque 5,400 personnes.

M. Hales: 5,400!

M. Drury: Oui. Il faut beaucoup de gens pour faire cette vérification préalable; il y a un assez grand nombre de vérificateurs. On prévoit qu'en supprimant cette vérification préalable, on va économiser environ 1,100 années-homme, sur ces 5,400 personnes. C'est ce que nous cherchons.

M. Hales: Vous avez 5,400 personnes à transférer?

M. Drury: Ces 5,400 personnes vont être transférées. Ou cela veut peut-être dire non pas qu'on va les déplacer physiquement, mais qu'on va leur donner des postes dans une autre hiérarchie. Nous espérons ainsi que, lorsque le système entrera en vigueur, nous aurons besoin, sur ces 5,400 personnes, de 1,100 années-homme de travail de moins, et que ces personnes pourront alors être affectées à d'autres fonctions dans le gouvernement, dans le genre de travail pour lequel elles sont compétentes.

M. Hales: Et vous allez conserver le personnel actuel qui, dans les divers ministères qui font un certain travail de vérification, comme le ministère de l'Agriculture, qui a une section de vérification des comptes?

M. Drury: C'est exact.

M. Hales: Le personnel du bureau du contrôleur général va maintenant être affecté au ministère de l'Agriculture, par exemple, pour y faire le travail de vérification préalable?

M. Drury: Non, nous supprimons maintenant la vérification préalable.

M. Hales: Au ministère de l'Agriculture?

M. Drury: Oui.

[*Text*]

Mr. Hales: Then, those people will have to be displaced or found other jobs?

Mr. Drury: That is correct.

Mr. Hales: And this will involve 5,400 people.

Mr. Drury: No, this will involve and estimated 1,100.

Mr. Hales: Eleven hundred.

The Chairman: Mr. Alkenbrack.

Mr. Alkenbrack: I would like to ask the Minister, Mr. Chairman, if these people are being transferred to some other employment in the government, how can he say that they are going to save 1,100 man years?

Mr. Drury: Perhaps I was a little inexact in my statement. When I say the staff, I mean the staff as a whole: the function is being transferred to another department. This does not mean every single man doing exactly the same job is going to be transferred and continue in it. But the functions of bookkeeping, accounting, the functions of receipt and banking of money, and the functions of preparation of the public accounts will continue to be performed by this staff who have been doing it in the past, but they will be responsible to the Receiver General, who previously had been the Minister of Finance, and who now will be the Minister of Supply and Services.

Mr. Alkenbrack: I submit, Mr. Chairman, that the Minister has not yet proven to us that he is saying anything other than...

The Chairman: You are speaking about those 1,100 persons that the Minister mentioned?

Mr. Alkenbrack: Yes. He is stating that their services here are expendable and unless their services are immediately needed in other departments of government that are not being served now, he is not saying anything, because we, as a whole, have a responsibility to those civil servants. We cannot fire them without cause, we cannot discharge them nor do I think the Minister wishes to do that.

The Chairman: Mr. Minister.

Mr. Drury: Are you suggesting that once a man becomes a civil servant regardless of changes in the complexion of the government,

[*Interpretation*]

M. Hales: Dans ce cas, on va devoir muter ces personnes ou leur trouver d'autres postes?

M. Drury: C'est exact.

M. Hales: Et cela concerne 5,400 personnes.

M. Drury: Non, cela va concerner environ 1,100 personnes.

M. Hales: 1,100.

Le président: Monsieur Alkenbrack.

M. Alkenbrack: Monsieur le président, j'aimerais demander au Ministre comment on peut dire qu'il va y avoir une économie de 1,100 années-homme de travail, si ces personnes sont affectées à d'autres postes dans le gouvernement.

M. Drury: Peut-être ma réponse n'était-elle pas suffisamment précise. Quand je dis le personnel, je veux parler du personnel dans son ensemble: la fonction elle-même est transférée à un autre ministère. Cela ne veut pas dire que chaque employé particulier va être affecté à un autre ministère et continuer à exercer exactement les mêmes fonctions qu'à l'heure actuelle. Mais les fonctions de comptabilité, de tenue des livres, de réception et de mise en banque de l'argent, et de préparation des comptes publics continueront à être remplies par le personnel qui s'en occupait autrefois, mais il relèvera du receveur général, qui autrefois était le ministre des Finances, et qui sera désormais le ministre des Approvisionnements et Services.

M. Alkenbrack: Je vous ferai remarquer, monsieur le président, que le Ministre ne nous a pas encore prouvé qu'il économisait quoi que ce soit, sinon...

Le président: Vous voulez parler des 1,100 personnes qu'a mentionnés le Ministre?

M. Alkenbrack: Oui. Il dit que l'on peut maintenant se passer de leurs services, et, à moins que l'on n'en ait besoin dans d'autres ministères où ces services ne soient pas assurés à l'heure actuelle, il ne réalise aucune économie, car nous avons tous une responsabilité à l'égard de ces fonctionnaires. Nous ne pouvons les mettre à la porte sans raison, nous ne pouvons les remercier de leurs services, et je ne pense pas que ce soit là l'intention du ministre.

Le président: Monsieur le ministre.

M. Drury: Voulez-vous laisser entendre qu'une fois qu'une personne entre dans la fonction publique, elle est assurée d'un

[*Texte*]

he has to be employed for life? Is that what I understand?

Mr. Alkenbrack: You cannot fire people without cause. You just stated a few minutes ago that you must find other employment for them.

Mr. Drury: We endeavour to do so, but where a job ceases to exist, there is then clearly no further warrant for paying that man to do a non-existant job. In practice, there is, as you know, a quite large attrition or withdrawal for one reason or another from the public service and vacancies occur continuously.

I do not quite know what the numbers are but they are quite substantial. So far we have found, with a current freeze on employment, that there is not much problem of placing elsewhere in the public service those of this character whose jobs become redundant.

Mr. Alkenbrack: Let me put it this way.

The Chairman: Mr. Hales, Mr. Nystrom would like to ask a question.

Mr. Hales: Yes.

Mr. Nystrom: I would like to ask a question concerning the people who are going to be transferred from this department. Is anything going to be done, or is anything being done to protect their seniority, their salary, their working conditions, their pension plan and so on? Is this being looked after?

Mr. Drury: There is a single pension plan for the whole of the public service and whether they are in one department or another their pension rights are the same. In relation to their salaries, they will be performing the same function; that is, the man who has

• 1620

been in the cheque issuing branch presumably will continue to be employed in the cheque issuing branch. The only ones who will be affected are those who have been engaged exclusively on pre-audit. And, as has been the case in the past, we make every endeavour to find alternative employment appropriate to the person's qualifications and scale of salary.

Mr. Nystrom: What about seniority when job advancement will be affected? Is he going

[*Interprétation*]

emploi à vie, quelles que soient les modifications de la structure du gouvernement? Vous ai-je bien compris?

M. Alkenbrack: Vous ne pouvez pas renvoyer des gens sans raison. Vous avez dit vous-mêmes, il y a un instant, qu'il allait vous falloir trouver d'autres emplois pour ces fonctionnaires.

M. Drury: Nous nous efforçons de le faire. Mais lorsqu'un poste cesse d'exister, il est clair qu'il n'y a plus aucune raison de payer quelqu'un pour occuper un poste qui n'existe plus. Comme vous le savez, il y a, en pratique, beaucoup d'abandons ou de démissions de la fonction publique, pour une raison ou une autre, et il y a constamment des postes qui se trouvent vacants.

Je ne sais pas exactement quel en est le nombre, mais il est assez considérable. Jusqu'à présent, nous avons constaté, avec le blocage actuel de l'emploi, que l'on n'a pas de difficultés à affecter à d'autres postes les fonctionnaires, comme ceux-là, dont la fonction devient superflue.

M. Alkenbrack: Permettez-moi de tourner la chose autrement.

Le président: Monsieur Hales, M. Nystrom a une question à poser.

M. Hales: Oui.

M. Nystrom: Je voudrais poser une question au sujet des gens qui vont être transférés de ce ministère. Est-ce que l'on va faire, ou est-ce que l'on fait, quoi que ce soit pour protéger leur traitement, leurs droits d'ancienneté, leurs conditions de travail, leur pension de retraite, et ainsi de suite? Est-ce que l'on s'occupe de ces questions?

M. Drury: Il y a un régime de pension de retraite unique pour toute la fonction publique, et leurs droits sont les mêmes, quel que soit le ministère dans lequel ils travaillent. Pour ce qui est des traitements, ces personnes continueront à exercer la même fonction. Un homme par exemple, qui s'est occupé de l'émission des chèques, continuera de travailler à l'émission des chèques. Ceux qui seront affectés sont ceux qui travaillent à la prévérification. Comme par le passé, nous tentons par tous les efforts de trouver d'autres emplois à ces fonctionnaires selon leurs qualifications et leur traitement.

M. Nystrom: Et que faites-vous de l'ancienneté? Le fonctionnaire perd-il son ancienneté

[*Text*]

to lose his seniority when he is transferred to a different department.

Mr. Drury: I am not sure what you understand by seniority. There is not any rule of seniority in the union sense of the term in the public service. We do not have this system of bumping and so on. It does not exist.

Mr. Hales: We have here a recommendation of the Glassco Commission being instituted, and I am very happy to see this. Glassco made this recommendation because he felt there would be more efficiency in government if it was instituted. Now we are having the pre-audit responsibility and the comptroller shifted over to the departments, and it is quite evident from what the Minister has said that there will be a number of jobs that will cease to exist. I hope the Minister will give the Committee his assurance that the saving and the efficiency suggested by the Glassco report will be instituted to the fullest degree it can be. I think if we had that assurance we could proceed.

Mr. Drury: Mr. Chairman, I can give an assurance that the purpose of this is to implement the Glassco recommendation and to achieve increased efficiency and economy. Now the hon. member says "the fullest economy". This means then if we can fire a man tomorrow we should do it, not wait until Wednesday.

Mr. Hales: No, I did not say that.

Mr. Drury: Well, you are saving two days' pay. That is fuller economy than not saving two days' pay. So if this is the assurance he is seeking, I do not think I can give it to him.

Mr. Hales: I did not say that I wanted to see them fired, but I would like to see them placed in other positions and not hire more people.

Mr. Drury: As I explained, Mr. Chairman, to the Committee, we now have a freeze on hiring and these people who are redundant obviously will be the first candidates for vacancies which occur. Indeed, to some degree, they will be the only candidates.

Mr. Hales: On the other hand, if the job ceases to exist that person cannot be employed.

Mr. Drury: In that job.

Mr. Hales: All right.

[*Interpretation*]

lorsqu'il est envoyé à un nouveau ministère?

M. Drury: Je ne sais pas au juste ce que vous entendez par ancienneté. A la Fonction publique, il n'y a pas de règlement relatif à l'ancienneté, dans le sens syndical du mot. Nous n'avons pas ce genre de système dans la Fonction publique.

M. Hales: Une recommandation de la Commission Glassco est mise en vigueur ici, et je m'en réjouis. Glassco avait fait cette recommandation parce qu'il s'attendait à ce que le gouvernement en devienne plus efficace. Maintenant, on transfère aux ministères la responsabilité de la pré-vérification ainsi que le contrôleur du Trésor et il est évident que de nombreux postes disparaîtront. J'espère que le ministre donnera au Comité son assurance que les économies et l'efficacité que nous promettait la Commission Glassco seront réalisées. Je crois que s'il nous donne cette assurance nous pourrons continuer.

M. Drury: Monsieur le président, je peux vous assurer que le but de ce projet de loi est de mettre en vigueur les recommandations de la Commission Glassco, soit de réaliser des épargnes et d'assurer l'efficacité des services gouvernementaux. Pour réaliser le plus d'économies possibles comme le dit mon collègue, si nous pouvons renvoyer un homme demain, nous devrions le faire, et non pas attendre à mercredi.

M. Hales: Ce n'est pas ce que j'ai dit.

M. Drury: Vous épargnez deux jours de salaire. Cela est une économie plus importante que de les verser. Je ne sais pas si je peux vous donner cette assurance, si c'est bien celle que vous désirez.

M. Hales: Je n'ai pas dit que je voulais qu'on les renvoie, mais je voudrais qu'ils soient placés dans d'autres postes au lieu d'en recruter d'autres.

M. Drury: Ainsi que je l'expliquais au Comité, monsieur le président, le recrutement est interdit et les gens qui sont excédentaires seront les premiers candidats aux postes qui se trouveront vacants. En un sens, ce sont les seuls candidats.

M. Hales: D'autre part, si un poste cesse d'exister, la personne qui se trouve dans le poste ne peut pas être embauchée.

M. Drury: A ce poste.

M. Hales: C'est exact.

[*Texte*]

Mr. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): I would like to clear up a matter that I am still not clear on, Mr. Chairman. As I understand audit, we are not dealing with just money; we are dealing with a function. As I further understand it, the department in question—it could be the Department of Agriculture—will itself have to be a little more careful to make sure that their acts are within the scope of the legislation. Am I correct that for this reason they might even have a little more staff to make sure that this is done?

Mr. Drury: I would hope not, Mr. Chairman, because we have been working to implement this recommendation and a number of other related recommendations of the Glassco Commission, which have all been in the direction of placing greater responsibility for programming and budgeting on the government departments rather than centralizing it. This has led to the construction and structuring of departments to carry out this re-

• 1625

sponsibility. We have now reached the point where it appears they have adequate staff to do this job on their own. It is this that makes the pre-audit function of the Comptroller of the Treasury redundant.

Mr. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Did the Glassco Commission also recommend that there be cost accounting—that each department look after its own money? Was there any suggestion to this effect?

Mr. Drury: No, not exactly that each department look after its own money, but that there should be a rather more complete fiscal or financial responsibility vested in the departments than a central detailed financial control.

Mr. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): I would favour the intent of this particular act. Now in respect of the other, we will see about it when the time comes.

Clause 4 agreed to.

On Clause 5—Establishment of accounts.

Mr. Hales: I would like to get clear in my mind just what this clause means.

In the past the Minister of Finance was the Receiver General. Now the Minister of Supply and Services is going to become the Receiver General. We are going to take out of the Department of Finance the position of Receiver General and move it over to the Department of Supply and Services. To me this would be analogous to a private company

[*Interprétation*]

M. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Je voudrais éclaircir un point. Si je comprends la vérification, c'est une fonction et non pas seulement une question d'argent. Si je comprends bien, le ministère en cause, le ministère de l'Agriculture, par exemple, devra se montrer plus prudent pour s'assurer que leurs actions sont autorisées par la mesure législative. Est-ce que j'ai raison de croire qu'ils augmenteront même leur personnel pour s'en assurer.

M. Drury: J'espère bien que non, monsieur le président, car nous travaillons pour mettre en vigueur cette recommandation ainsi que d'autres recommandations de la Commission Glassco en vue de donner plus de responsabilités pour la programmation et du budget aux divers ministères du gouvernement, plutôt que de centraliser. Nous avons dû changer la structure des ministères pour qu'ils puissent assumer cette responsabilité. Nous en sommes au point où il semble qu'ils ont suffisamment de personnel pour remplir cette fonction. C'est pourquoi la pré-vérification du contrôle du Trésor est un double emploi.

M. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Est-ce que la Commission Glassco a aussi recommandé qu'on fasse la compatabilité des prix de revient dans chaque ministère, que chaque ministère fasse sa propre vérification?

M. Drury: Pas précisément cela, non. Mais qu'on accorde une plus grande responsabilité financière ou fiscale aux ministères plutôt qu'à un contrôle central.

M. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Il me semble que je suis en faveur de l'intention de la Loi. Quant à l'autre, nous verrons en temps et lieu.

L'article 4 est adopté.

L'article 5: Établissement de comptes.

M. Hales: Je voudrais que l'on m'explique exactement ce que veut dire cet article.

Par le passé, le ministre des Finances était le Receveur général. Maintenant, le ministre des Approvisionnements et Services sera le Receveur général. Nous retirons du ministère des Finances le poste de receveur général et nous le transférons au ministère des Approvisionnements et Services. Il me semble que c'est analogue à la mesure prise par une

[*Text*]

or corporation who had a secretary-treasurer or a finance man saying to him, "We are going to do away with your job but we are going to give your position to the purchasing agent, and he is going to be our finance expert".

If this is what this clause proposes to do and if the books of Canada are now going to be under the Department of Supply and Services and not under the Department of Finance, I think we are on a very, very, far remote and ridiculous course. That is my observation. Now I ask the Minister the question: Is this what you propose to do?

Mr. Robinson: Mr. Hales, do you really believe that your analogy is a valid one?

Mr. Hales: Yes, I do, because this is what we are doing. We are taking out of the Department of Finance—Mr. Chairman, I should speak through you—the books of Canada and putting them into the Department of Supply and Services, which is the purchasing department.

Mr. Drury: Mr. Chairman, I am not sure that I could agree with the analogy either.

Obviously the Deputy Receiver General must be a skilled accountant, and the fact that the Minister of Supply and Services is at the same time the Receiver General has no relationship or effect on the professional qualifications of the man who is running the operation—the Deputy Receiver-General. I do not think you are looking really at the professional qualifications of the ministers, otherwise, as Minister of Finance we should only have a banker—a lawyer would not qualify.

Mr. Hales: Then why are we moving the financial operations and the books of Canada out of the Department of Finance?

Mr. Drury: Mr. Chairman, I suggest that we are not moving the financial operations. It will continue to be the responsibility of the Minister of Finance to determine and be responsible for the fiscal policy not only of the government but of Canada.

• 1630

The operative department which will carry out the mechanical implementation of this policy, in the keeping of the books, in the recording of expenditures, in the encashment of cheques will be a government department specializing in this kind of thing, in exactly the same way as the Department of National Revenue is responsible for the collection of

[*Interpretation*]

société privée qui, ayant un secrétaire-trésorier ou un préposé aux finances, abolirait ce poste et dirait à cet homme: «Nous abolissons votre poste pour le donner à notre agent d'approvisionnements.»

Si c'est là le but de cet article et que la comptabilité de l'État sera assurée par le ministère des Approvisionnements et Services au lieu du ministère des Finances, il me semble que nous suivons une voie tout à fait ridicule. C'est la remarque que j'avais à formuler. Je voudrais demander au ministre si c'est ce que vous vous proposez de faire?

M. Robinson: Monsieur Hales, est-ce que vous croyez que votre comparaison est justifiée?

M. Hales: Oui, parce que nous enlevons du ministère des Finances les livres de la comptabilité de l'État et nous les remettons au ministère des Approvisionnements et Services.

M. Drury: Monsieur le président, je ne suis pas certain que je sois davantage d'accord avec cette comparaison. Il est clair que le receveur-adjoint doit être un comptable compétent, Et le fait que le ministre des Approvisionnements et Services est en même temps le Receveur général, n'a aucun rapport avec les compétences professionnelles de celui qui dirige les travaux, soit le receveur général adjoint. Je ne pense pas que vous considerez les compétences professionnelles des ministres, autrement le ministre des Finances serait nécessairement un banquier. Un avocat ne serait pas compétent.

M. Hales: Alors, pourquoi enlevons-nous les opérations financières et la comptabilité de l'État du ministère des Finances?

M. Drury: Nous n'enlevons pas les opérations financières du ministère des Finances. Le ministre des Finances sera toujours responsable de la politique fiscale, non seulement du gouvernement, mais de tout le Canada.

Le ministère qui mettra en vigueur la politique fiscale du ministre, qui verra à la tenue des livres, à la comptabilité des dépenses, à l'encaissement des chèques, sera un ministère du gouvernement qui se spécialise dans ce genre de travaux, exactement de la même façon que le ministère du Revenu national est responsable pour la collecte des deniers, res-

[*Texte*]

moneys which, at one time, as I think the hon. member knows used to be the responsibility of the Minister of Finance. The fact that he ceases to be the official collector of moneys and this is vested in a department staffed for this purpose, I do not think represents a turning over of the finances of Canada to an unskilled group.

What is being transferred here is the bookkeeping operation, not the determination of fiscal policy.

Mr. Hales: Well would it not be good logic to have the man who sets the policy and is responsible for it also be the man responsible for its operation and its control?

Mr. Drury: He is responsible for its control but not administratively responsible for the bookkeeping operation.

Mr. Hales: Mr. Minister, I am afraid you have not given me arguments to prove that we should transfer our finance operations out of the Department of Finance into a department that is set up for supply and services—a purchasing department. I cannot see the connection, I think it is belittling the Department of Finance, I think it diminishes in importance the prestige and position of the Minister of Finance and his deputy—it is degrading to them—and I cannot understand it.

Mr. Drury: I think, Mr. Chairman, that if Mr. Hales will revert to his corporate analogy, the functions of the vice-president (finance) of a large corporation are quite separate and distinct from those of bookkeeping—the functions of the treasurer. The vice-president (finance) does not have charge of the bookkeeping functions which are confined to the treasurer. The job of the vice-president (finance) and his staff is to propose financial policy for the company, and it is the job of the treasurer to keep the books of account and the books of record.

Mr. Hales: But he does not transfer that work to his purchasing agent or his purchasing department, like we are doing here.

Mr. Drury: Well, you will discover in the reorganization bill that the department is not only a purchasing agent on the supply side, purchasing and warehousing but, on the service side, it provides to all government departments bookkeeping services and translation services. Data processing, other than that provided by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics, including financial data, will also be the responsibility of the Minister of Supply and Services on the service side of this

[*Interprétation*]

ponsabilité qui était autrefois je crois, celle du ministre des Finances. Il y a longtemps depuis que le ministre des Finances n'est plus responsable pour la collecte des deniers publics, et le fait qu'on a établi un ministère à cette fin, avec un personnel spécialisé à ces fins ne signifie pas, je pense, que nous soyons en train de transférer la gestion financière du Canada à des gens sans expérience.

Ce que nous transférons ce sont les livres de comptabilité et non la responsabilité de la politique fiscale.

M. Hales: Est-ce qu'il ne serait pas juste que l'homme qui établit la politique et en est responsable le soit aussi à l'égard de l'application et du contrôle de cette même politique?

M. Drury: Il continue à être responsable pour le contrôle mais pas responsable du point de vue administratif de la tenue des livres.

M. Hales: Monsieur le ministre, je crains que vous ne m'ayez pas prouvé qu'il soit nécessaire de transférer les opérations financières du ministre des Finances à un ministère des approvisionnements et services qui s'occuperait des services. Je ne vois aucun rapport. Il me semble que vous dénigrez le ministère des Finances. Il me semble que le crédit du ministre des Finances et de son sous-ministre en est diminué et je n'y comprends absolument rien.

M. Drury: Je crois, monsieur le président, que si M. Hales songe encore une fois à la comparaison qu'il nous a décrite, les fonctions du vice-président des Finances, dans une grande société, sont tout à fait séparées des fonctions de comptabilité exercées par le trésorier. Et le vice-président qui s'occupe des finances n'est pas chargé de la gestion des comptabilités qui revient au trésorier. Le vice-président des Finances et son personnel doivent proposer une politique financière à la compagnie. Et le trésorier est responsable pour la tenue des livres.

M. Hales: Mais il ne transmet pas ces travaux à la division des achats comme nous le faisons ici.

M. Drury: Dans le projet de loi sur la réorganisation, vous trouverez que le ministère est non seulement un service d'achat et d'entreposage mais qu'il fournit aussi à tous les ministères du gouvernement des services de comptabilité et de traduction, et le traitement des données pour le gouvernement. Le futur ministre des Approvisionnements et services sera aussi responsable du traitement des données autres que celles fournies par le Bureau fédéral de la statistique, y compris les don-

[*Text*]

same new department. And the department, as recommended by Glassco, incidentally, is to consolidate all the across-the-board services rendered to the government under one head, with a view to eliminating duplication.

Mr. Hales: Mr. Chairman, I do not want to delay the proceedings, but if we follow Mr. Drury's suggestion then we should have named the department The Department of Finance, Service and Supply.

Mr. Drury: Well, finance, sir, is only one aspect of this. Data processing is not a finance service; translation is not a finance service.

• 1635

Mr. Hales: Well, we will move on, but we are riddling the Department of Finance. I am afraid it has moved in the wrong direction, but I pass.

The Chairman: Mr. Robinson?

Mr Robinson: For clarification, Mr. Chairman, would it be fair to say, the way this section would read now, that the man who goes to the store to buy the supplies or the services is going to carry the money with him and there is not going to be two people going to do the same job?

Mr. Drury: Your analogy, as I understand it, in some sense would be appropriate, but it is rather difficult to extend that sort of homespun concept to a very large and complex organization.

Mr. Robinson: But is this not really what we are trying to do? Today you see people going to Loblaws or some other store to buy what they need. Mother and dad go together, mother picks up what she wants and dad carries the cheque. It seems ridiculous that they should both go. I know in my family my wife does it all: she takes the money and she also gets the groceries. I think this is what we are trying to do here—streamline the procedure and cut out the superfluous personnel that we do not need.

Mr. Drury: I agree with that part of it; that is what we are trying to do.

The Chairman: Mr. Crossman?

Mr. Crossman: In other words, I gather that it is just a matter of abolishing the duplication of effort that is not necessary.

Mr. Drury: That is correct.

The Chairman: Mr. Alkenbrack?

[*Interpretation*]

nées financières. Ce nouveau ministère, comme le recommande M. Glasgow, consolidera tous les services généraux fournis au gouvernement afin de les réunir sous une même enseigne et éliminer le chevauchement des services.

M. Hales: Je ne veux pas retarder la marche de la séance, mais si nous adoptons la suggestion de M. Drury, le nouveau ministère devrait s'appeler ministère des Finances, des Approvisionnements et des Services.

M. Drury: Mais les services financiers ne sont qu'un aspect. Le traitement des données n'est pas un service financier, ni la traduction.

M. Hales: Continuons, mais nous ne faisons qu'accabler le ministère des Finances. Je pense que tout cela évolue vers la mauvaise direction.

Le président: Monsieur Robinson?

M. Robinson: Je voudrais une précision: est-il juste de dire que celui qui va acheter les services et les approvisionnements apporterait son argent avec lui et qu'il y aura deux agents pour faire le même travail?

M. Drury: Si je comprends bien votre comparaison, elle est justifiée. On ne peut pas tracer la comparaison exactement entre un concept simple et une fonction aussi complexe que les fonctions du gouvernement.

M. Robinson: Mais n'est-ce pas ce que nous essayons de faire? De nos jours, monsieur et madame vont magasiner ensemble. Madame fait son choix et monsieur n'a plus qu'à payer. Il est ridicule qu'ils doivent magasiner ensemble. Chez moi, ma femme fait tout. Elle prend l'argent et elle achète les épiceries et je pense que c'est ce que nous essayons de faire ici. Nous essayons d'éliminer les formalités et le personnel superflus.

M. Drury: C'est ce que nous essayons de faire.

Le président: Monsieur Crossman?

M. Crossman: Ce que vous faites, vous essayez d'abolir le chevauchement inutile des efforts.

M. Drury: C'est exact.

Le président: Monsieur Alkenbrack?

[*Texte*]

Mr. Alkenbrack: I would like to point out to the Minister that if you look at Subsection 2 Section 16 of the old act, then substitute the new Subsection 2, you will note that this, in effect, reduces the power and the responsibility of the Minister of Finance and increases that of the Receiver General. The Receiver General does not sit in Parliament.

Mr. Drury: Oh excuse me, please; Mr. Jamieson is there almost every day.

Mr. Alkenbrack: Yes, but the Receiver General...

Mr. Drury: The Receiver General is Mr. Jamieson, or he will be when the Government Organization Act passes.

Mr. Alkenbrack: But he is not the man who is responsible to parliament for expenditures; it is the Minister of Finance.

Mr. Drury: There are a number of people who are responsible for expenditures in one way or another. The current practice is that the bank accounts are established in the name of the Receiver General. They are established in banks chosen by the Minister of Finance. That is under the present Financial Administration Act.

The amendment being proposed here is that the Receiver General, who is the Minister of Supply and Services, will establish these but in banks designated by the Minister of Finance. The minister referred to in the amendment in Clause 5 of the bill is the Minister of Finance. So that the Minister of Finance will continue to give direction on which banks will be chosen as depositaries for government accounts, but the mechanical operation of setting them up and running them will be the responsibility of the Receiver General, who is the Minister of Supply and Services.

Mr. Alkenbrack: Then will he be primarily responsible to parliament, Mr. Chairman?

The Chairman: In the past, generally speaking, in matters of finance the Minister of Finance has been.

Mr. Drury: In the matter of selection of banks, it will be the Minister of Finance who will be responsible to parliament; in the matter of the administration of these, it will be the Receiver General. If there are questions to be asked about why one account or another is short of money, assuming that such a situation could occur, then it will be the Receiver General or the Minister of Supply and Services.

The Chairman: Mr. Thomson?

[*Interprétation*]

M. Alkenbrack: Je voudrais souligner au ministre que, si l'on examine l'ancienne loi, au paragraphe 2 de l'article 16 et que l'on y substitue le nouveau sous alinéa 2, on diminue d'autant les pouvoirs et responsabilités du ministre des Finances, et l'on augmente les pouvoirs et responsabilités du receveur général qui ne siège pas à la Chambre.

M. Drury: Je vous demande pardon. M. Jamieson est présent presque tous les jours.

M. Alkenbrack: Oui, mais le receveur général.

M. Drury: M. Jamieson sera le receveur général lorsque sera adoptée la Loi sur l'organisation du gouvernement.

M. Alkenbrack: Mais ce n'est pas lui qui est responsable des dépenses au parlement, c'est le ministre des Finances.

M. Drury: Il y a plusieurs personnes qui sont responsables des dépenses devant le parlement. La pratique veut maintenant que les comptes de banque soient établis au nom du receveur général. Ils sont ouverts dans les banques choisies par le ministre des Finances en vertu de la Loi actuelle sur l'administration financière.

On propose maintenant que le ministre responsable soit celui des Approvisionnements et services, et qu'il établisse ses comptes dans des banques désignées par le ministre des Finances. Le ministre désigné dans la modification, article 5, est le ministre des Finances. Donc le ministre des Finances continuera à décider dans quelles banques l'on déposera les comptes du gouvernement. Mais tout le travail mécanique relatif à la gestion de ces comptes sera la responsabilité du receveur général qui sera ministre des Approvisionnements et services.

M. Alkenbrack: Donc il sera responsable au parlement, monsieur le président?

Le président: Dans le passé, c'était d'habitude le ministre des finances.

M. Drury: Quant au choix des banques, ce sera le ministre des Finances qui sera responsable devant le parlement. Quant à l'administration de ces comptes, ce sera le Receveur général qui sera responsable. S'il y a des questions à poser sur la raison du découvert d'un compte, ce sera au Receveur général ou au ministre des Approvisionnements et services à y répondre.

Le président: Monsieur Thomson?

[*Text*]

Mr. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Mr. Chairman, in view of the fact that Mr. Drury

• 1640

has rejected both analogies presented to the Committee, could he or one of his two assistants present an analogy that we could use. I might think I understand it but if I had to explain it to someone else I am not so sure. If he could give us an analogy in the homespun style that he spoke of, it might clarify things for everybody.

Mr. Drury: Well, analogies are very dangerous because my concept, to take the case that Mr. Robinson quoted of the man and wife relationship, might be quite different from his. I do not say they are but this is a possibility, and if one accepts my version of how a man and wife behave towards each other and apply this to the government, your understanding of what I am saying may be quite false and misleading. I much prefer to explain to you the precise function that these people carry out in terms of government service.

Mr. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): At the moment I am just a little bit confused. I would rather take a risk on the other. Mr. Chairman, I am sorry to pursue this but I am still not sure—obviously the intent is to streamline and I do not want to argue with that; this is fine—how this is going to be arrived at by doing some of the things you mention.

Mr. Drury: Have I got across to you an understanding of how the vesting of responsibility in deputy heads for pre-audit is going to streamline and save a lot of duplicated work.

Mr. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Oh, yes.

Mr. Drury: All right. The functions of the Receiver General have been to receive, account for and bank all moneys received by the government as the title implies. This has been carried out by a staff under the control of the Minister of Finance. The Department of Finance has had, in a sense, two functions. One is an administrative function and the other is a policy function.

In relation to getting rid of, or concentrating on, policy and divorcing themselves from administrative functions, the first step was in respect of collection of moneys, to pass this over to the then newly established Depart-

[*Interpretation*]

M. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Vu que M. Drury a rejeté les deux comparaisons que nous avons soumises au comité je me demande si lui, ou ses adjoints pourraient nous établir une comparaison qui serait acceptable. Je crois que je peux comprendre ceci mais si je devais l'expliquer à quelqu'un d'autre, ça n'est plus la même chose. S'il voulait nous établir une comparaison plus simple, je crois que cela clarifierait les choses pour tout le monde.

M. Drury: Les comparaisons sont très dangereuses parce que mon concept—prenez le cas que M. Robinson a cité: les rapports d'un homme et d'une femme—pourrait être très différent du sien. Je ne dis pas qu'il l'est, mais c'est possible. Si l'on accepte ma version sur la façon dont se comportent un mari et sa femme l'un envers l'autre et qu'on applique au gouvernement, votre compréhension de ce que je dis peut être très fausse et vous induire en erreur. Je préfère de beaucoup vous expliquer les tâches précises que remplissent ces personnes en fonction du service gouvernemental.

M. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Il y a beaucoup de confusion dans mon esprit. Je prendrais plutôt une chance sur l'autre. Monsieur le président, je regrette de poursuivre tout ceci, mais je ne suis pas encore convaincu,—il est évident qu'on tend à rénover et je ne veux pas discuter là-dessus,—comment on en arrivera là en faisant les choses que vous mentionnez.

M. Drury: Vous ai-je fait comprendre comment l'attribution aux sous-chefs de la responsabilité de la vérification préliminaire sera rénovée et éliminera beaucoup de duplication?

M. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Ah! Oui.

M. Drury: Très bien. Les fonctions du receveur général ont été jusqu'ici de recevoir, de rendre compte et de mettre en banque tous les argents reçus par le gouvernement, comme son titre l'indique. C'est un personnel relevant du ministre des Finances qui accomplit ces fonctions. Le ministère des Finances a rempli dans un sens deux fonctions: l'une est une fonction administrative, et l'autre est une fonction de politique.

Pour supprimer la fonction de politique, ou plutôt se concentrer sur elle et se séparer des fonctions administratives, on a fait le premier pas en transférant la perception des argents au ministère du Revenu national nouvelle-

[*Texte*]

ment of National Revenue. In relation to the administration of the tariff, the tariff itself is, has been and continues to be the responsibility of the Minister of Finance, but the administration of the tariff is entrusted to another government department and another minister. It takes a large staff to administer the tariff. The Custom Department is quite a large organization.

In respect of the bookkeeping, the administrative function, it also takes a large staff and this has been, if you like, attached as an administrative job to the Department of Finance. It does make some sense to put into an administrative department—the Department of Services—this administrative function while the fiscal policy still remains the responsibility of the Minister of Finance.

Mr. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Then the Minister of Finance will have few administrative problems to contend with in the financial sphere.

Mr. Drury: They should be substantially reduced. Under the present Act he still has to administer the Mint, which basically is a big administrative operation. If the Mint is converted to a crown corporation he will continue to be responsible for policy in relation to it, but not for the administrative detail. There is a hope that by ridding itself of these administrative responsibilities the Depart-

• 1645

ment of Finance will be better able to discharge its policy responsibilities.

Mr. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Part of the 5,400 people that you talked about will go from the Department of Finance to work under the Receiver General. Is this correct?

Mr. Drury: That is correct.

The Chairman: Mr. Hales?

Mr. Hales: While we are talking about analogies, I would like to ask this: After this Bill is passed, will it be correct for any Canadian writing a letter or sending moneys to the Receiver General to address the envelope to the Receiver General of Canada in care of the Department of Supply and Services?

Mr. Drury: I think you would just address it to the Receiver General of Canada.

Mr. Hales: But if he put the correct address on it would be in care of the Department of Supply and Services.

[*Interprétation*]

ment établi. Pour ce qui est de l'administration des tarifs, les tarifs ont toujours été la responsabilité du ministre des Finances—l'administration des tarifs est confiée à un autre ministère et à un autre ministre. Il faut un personnel nombreux pour administrer les tarifs. La Division des douanes est un service très important.

Pour ce qui est de la tenue des livres, la fonction administrative, il faut également un personnel nombreux et ce service a été attaché, au titre d'emploi administratif au ministère des Finances. De fait, il paraît raisonnable de confier à une division administrative—la Division des services—cette fonction administrative, alors que la politique financière demeure toujours la responsabilité du ministre des Finances.

M. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Alors, le ministre des Finances aura à lutter contre très peu de problèmes administratifs dans le domaine financier.

M. Drury: Ils devraient être sensiblement réduits. En vertu de la loi actuelle, il doit toujours administrer la Monnaie, ce qui est, fondamentalement, une fonction administrative importante. Si la Monnaie est transformée en société de la Couronne, il continuera d'être chargé de l'aspect politique, mais non des détails administratifs de la question. On espère qu'en se débarrassant ainsi de ces res-

ponsabilités administratives, le ministère des Finances sera mieux en mesure de s'acquitter de ses responsabilités politiques.

M. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Une partie de ces 5,400 personnes dont vous avez parlé laissera le ministère des Finances pour aller travailler chez le receveur général. Est-ce exact?

M. Drury: C'est exact.

Le président: Monsieur Hales.

M. Hales: Nous parlons d'analogie, je voudrais poser la question suivante: est-ce exact de dire que, une fois le Bill adopté, tout Canadien qui écrira une lettre ou enverra de l'argent au receveur général, devra l'adresser au receveur général du Canada, au soin du ministère des Approvisionnements et des Services?

M. Drury: Il n'aura simplement qu'à l'adresser au receveur général du Canada.

M. Hales: Mais si l'adresse doit être complète, il faudra qu'il ajoute ministère des Approvisionnements et des Services.

[*Text*]

Mr. Drury: Or a street address; you could add that.

Mr. Hales: Well, I do not think that will read too well for the public.

Mr. Drury: I suggest that if you now asked the public who the Receiver General is they would say, "What?"

Mr. Hales: They would say, the Minister of Finance.

Mr. Drury: I do not like betting, and perhaps I had better not offer to bet, but I think if you were to just go and ask a number of people in the street, the response you have indicated would perhaps come from one out of two hundred.

Mr. Hales: Whom do you think the public thinks he is?

Mr. Drury: They have not the faintest idea; they have never heard of him.

Mr. Hales: They pay a lot of money to him; they should know who he is.

The Chairman: Mr. Nystrom?

Mr. Nystrom: I just thought I would say one thing. Perhaps it would clarify matters to say that part of the duties of the Minister of Finance—the housekeeping duties—will be transferred to a new department while he still retains the housebuilding duties—the policy duties—of this old department.

Mr. Drury: I like that analogy better.

Mr. Nystrom: This might be a way to sum it up very briefly.

Mr. Drury: The architectural functions, at any rate.

Le président: Monsieur Clermont?

M. Clermont: Je voudrais faire une observation à la suite des commentaires de M. Hales. Actuellement, lorsque je fais un chèque, je le fais payable à l'ordre du Receveur général du Canada, Ottawa, Canada, et non pas à l'ordre du ministre des Finances.

M. Drury: Je crois que très peu de gens savent que le Receveur général est également le ministre des Finances.

M. Clermont: Merci.

[*Interpretation*]

M. Drury: Ou le nom d'une rue; vous pourriez ajouter cela.

M. Hales: Eh bien, je ne crois pas que cela se lirait très bien, pour le public.

M. Drury: Je ne sais pas. Je pense que si vous demandiez aux gens dans le public maintenant qui est le receveur général, ils vont dire «quoi»?

M. Hales: Ils diraient le ministre des Finances.

M. Drury: Je n'aime pas parier et je suis peut-être mieux de ne pas le faire, mais je pense que si vous posiez la question à des gens dans la rue, la réponse que vous nous avez proposée serait peut-être celle de une personne sur deux cents.

M. Hales: De qui, pensez-vous, le public croit-il qu'il s'agit?

M. Drury: Les gens n'ont absolument pas la moindre idée de qui il s'agit.

M. Hales: Pourtant ils envoient beaucoup beaucoup d'argent; ils devraient savoir qui il est, je pense.

Le président: Monsieur Nystrom.

M. Nystrom: Je pense que je pourrais ajouter quelque chose. Cela éclaircira peut-être la question de dire qu'une partie des fonctions du ministre des Finances, c'est-à-dire les fonctions d'entretien de la maison, disons, seront confiées à un nouveau ministère alors que les travaux, disons, de construction de la maison—les fonctions d'ordre politique—seront maintenues à l'ancien ministère.

M. Drury: J'aime mieux cette analogie.

M. Nystrom: C'est cela, si vous voulez, en gros.

M. Drury: Le rôle architectural, en tout cas.

The Chairman: Mr. Clermont?

Mr. Clermont: I would like to make a comment following the comments made by Mr. Hales. At the present time, when I write a cheque, I make it out to the Receiver General of Canada, Ottawa, Canada, and not to the Minister of Finance.

Mr. Drury: I believe that there are very few people who know that the Receiver General is at the same time the Minister of Finance.

Mr. Clermont: Thank you.

[*Texte*]

Clause 5 agreed to.

On Clause 6—Charges for services or use of facilities.

Mr. Robinson: Do I understand correctly that what Clause 6 really means is that accountability will fall on the shoulders of the person who has charge of the funds; that is, the spending of funds?

Mr. Drury: No, Mr. Chairman; the purpose of the proposed Section 18 is to clarify what has been, perhaps, a somewhat confused situation. The government now provides a great many services to the public, some of which are free, some of which are on a partial recovery basis and some of which are on a full recovery basis.

The authority for making these charges derives in some cases from statutes—that is, a fee is prescribed in a statute—in some cases from departmental regulations; in some cases as determined by the Governor in Council and in other cases as determined by the Treasury Board.

The result of this has been that there has not been a systematic review of charges for services rendered by the government. Periodically there has been an almost haphazard look at these with the result, as has been discovered and as Glassco mentioned, that some of these are wildly out of date and consequently an adjustment to bring them up to date is a very large one, or appears to be a very large one.

To prevent this kind of haphazard or random approach to fees and charges, this will

• 1650

provide that the Treasury Board will be responsible for initiating a comprehensive and continuous survey of them. The Treasury Board also will make recommendation to the Governor in Council about which charges should be determined or set by the Governor in Council, which fees and charges should be set by the Treasury Board, which should be set by ministers or departments and also provide, in this determination, for a systematic review.

Mr. Robinson: In other words, it will set the actual fee structure as well.

Mr. Drury: Initially it will set the fee structure or the parameters for setting it. In some instances, as I indicated, the policy followed by a department is full recovery.

Mr. Robinson: There will be a fee on a fee for service basis, the idea being to structure the fee to cover the total cost of the services?

[*Interprétation*]

L'article 5 est adopté. L'article 6—Droits pour services ou utilisation des installations.

M. Robinson: Si je comprends bien, l'article 6 veut dire que la comptabilité incombera à la personne qui est chargée des fonds; c'est-à-dire les dépenses d'argent. C'est bien cela?

M. Drury: Non, monsieur le président; le but de l'article 18 est d'éclaircir ce qui était avant un peu confus. Le gouvernement, accorde maintenant au public un grand nombre de services, dont certains sont gratuits, d'autres sont partiellement récupérables, d'autres sont complètement récupérables.

Le pouvoir de prélèvement d'argent est parfois prévu dans les statuts, c'est-à-dire, qu'une redevance est fixée dans les statuts mêmes. Dans d'autres cas, cela vient des règlements ministériels et dans d'autres cas, c'est déterminé par le gouverneur en conseil et d'autre part, ça peut être aussi déterminé par le Conseil du Trésor.

Alors ce qui fait que dans le passé, il n'y a jamais eu de révision systématique des charges pour les services offerts par le gouvernement. Périodiquement il y a toujours eu d'ailleurs une étude un peu aléatoire de ces choses de telle sorte que l'on s'est aperçu que certains de ces tarifs, comme l'a mentionné le rapport Glassco, sont un peu démodés et par conséquent il est nécessaire de faire un ajustement important pour les ramener à jour.

Pour empêcher que l'on agisse un peu au hasard en ce qui concerne ces droits et prélèvements, il faudra que le Conseil du Trésor se charge d'entreprendre une enquête générale et continuelle sur cette situation. On fera des recommandations au gouverneur en conseil pour voir quels seront les prélèvements établis ou fixés par lui, quels droits et prélèvements devraient être fixés par le Conseil du Trésor, et lesquels devraient l'être par le Cabinet ou les ministères, et il fera également, dans cet ordre d'idée le mécanisme d'une revision systématique.

M. Robinson: Autrement dit, il fixera la structure des redevances même.

M. Drury: Eh bien, disons que, au départ: oui. Il fixera la structure des redevances ou disons les paramètres qui en permettront l'établissement. Disons que dans certains cas, comme je l'ai indiqué, la politique suivie par le ministère est parfois le remboursement total.

M. Robinson: Autrement dit, il y aura une redevance pour services en vue d'un remboursement total?

[*Text*]

Mr. Drury: That is correct. In some instances, it will be the wish of Parliament that there not be full recovery and perhaps a case in point is second-class mail. While generally one would like to move towards full recovery, this cannot be done immediately or in one step and there will be something less than full recovery. In these instances, the department proposing less than full recovery will have to give an adequate argument as to why there should not be full recovery to the Treasury Board.

Mr. Robinson: But to be realistic should we not set up the fees on the basis of full recovery and then if there has to be some adjustment made, this would merely be a book entry but it would show up in the Estimates and we would have some indication of what the programs actually cost? For second-class mail, as you have mentioned, I do not think the people of Canada know this. They do not realize the amount of subsidy that goes into a program of subsidizing second-class mail.

Mr. Drury: I hope that as a consequence of this amendment we will have really much more coherence, much more understanding of the fee structure and the policy, the basis will be full recovery of cost. The cost, of course, changes. If one takes the example of a parking lot at an airport, the tariff on a full recovery basis will vary with the cost of running the parking lot; basically, changes in taxes and changes in the salaries of employees. This will mean that the fees for this particular service, parking, will have to be adjusted quite frequently. The adjustment should occur at a time when the cost changes, not 10 or 12 years later.

Mr. Robinson: I agree with this but at the same time you are suggesting that the government may consider subsidizing, say, second-class mail or whatever the program may be. I think that we should be more realistic and set out the actual cost. Then if there is a book transfer or a book entry to offset this because of the government's policy, fine. But at least let us know exactly what the costs are.

Mr. Drury: We hope to let the House know this in the new form of Estimates where the total cost will be shown and revenues from this particular program will be shown along-

[*Interpretation*]

M. Drury: C'est exact. Dans certains cas, le Parlement acceptera l'idée qu'il n'y ait pas récupération totale de l'argent et c'est, par exemple, le cas du courrier de deuxième classe. Alors qu'en général on voudrait que l'argent soit complètement récupéré, eh bien malheureusement cela ne peut pas se faire du jour au lendemain et par conséquent, il y aura probablement quelque chose de moins qu'un remboursement total, une récupération complète. Les ministères qui proposent moins qu'une récupération totale de l'argent devront en expliquer la raison au Conseil du Trésor.

M. Robinson: Pour être réalistes, ne serait-il pas bon de fixer les redevances en fonction d'une récupération totale et s'il fallait faire des ajustements, cela ne se ferait que dans les livres et figurerait dans le Budget? Cela nous donnerait une idée du coût des programmes. Pour ce qui est du courrier de seconde classe, je pense que le public en ait aucune idée et il ne connaît pas l'importance des subventions qui entrent dans un programme de subventions du courrier de deuxième classe.

M. Drury: Eh bien, j'espère qu'à la suite de cet amendement, nous aurons en fait beaucoup plus de cohésion, une meilleure compréhension du système de redevance tant que le principe fondamental sera la récupération des coûts en totalité. Mais bien sûr, ces coûts vont changer. Si on prend, par exemple, le cas d'un parc de stationnement dans un aérodrome, les tarifs imposés d'après le principe de la récupération totale de l'argent vont varier en fonction des coûts d'exploitation surtout en fonction de l'augmentation des taxes foncières et des salaires. Par conséquent, ce service particulier (le stationnement), devra être souvent réajusté et le réajustement devra se produire au moment où le coût changera et non pas 10 ou 12 ans plus tard.

M. Robinson: Je suis d'accord mais en même temps ce que vous dites c'est que le gouvernement pourra envisager de subventionner, par exemple, disons le courrier de deuxième classe ou un autre programme. Je pense qu'il serait plus réaliste de fixer le coût réel et si ensuite il y a une entrée dans les livres ou un transfert dans les livres pour compenser cela en raison de la politique suivie par le gouvernement, tant mieux. Mais que l'on sache au moins quels sont les coûts réels.

M. Drury: Eh bien, nous espérons que la Chambre en sera informée dans la nouvelle présentation des prévisions budgétaires où apparaîtront le coût total et les recettes pré-

[*Texte*]

side. The difference between the two represents the net cost or the failure to achieve complete recovery.

The Chairman: Mr. Hales.

Mr. Hales: I think that was a very good point that Mr. Robinson brought out.

Take the case of subletting property. Quite often the government will rent a building and through changes in plans, their lease has not expired but they have to carry it on to the end of the lease so they sublet it. Who determines the value at which this will be subrented? Normally you cannot get the price the government has paid for renting this so it is subrented at a lower rate. Treasury Board

• 1655

determines at what price it would be sublet and, as Mr. Robinson said, it should be shown as the full rent, with another book entry showing the loss on a certain property. What steps would they follow in this case?

Mr. Drury: It depends a bit on the size of the operation. If the government has rented premises for $120 a month and can only sublet them at $115 a month, this will not come to Treasury Board but will be within departmental discretion, the department endeavouring to secure full recovery.

Mr. Hales: Using the same example of $120, at what point would it come to Treasury Board?

Mr. Drury: I am sorry I do not have the figures for the authority of the Department of Public Works to engage in renting on their own authority.

The Chairman: Shall Clause 6 carry?

Clause 6 agreed to.

The Chairman: On Clause 7.

Mr. Robinson: Mr. Chairman, Clause 7 gives me a little concern, perhaps because I do not understand it fully. As I understand, in the past there had to be reference made to any debt or claim for or against Her Majesty The Queen in the right of Canada with regard to items of $1,000 or more, and I understand the suggestion is to increase this amount to $5,000 or more. Is that correct?

Mr. Drury: That is correct.

Mr. Robinson: Why are we considering this. And if we are is there any total maximum

[*Interprétation*]

vues de ces différents programmes. Et la différence entre les deux représente le coût net ou l'impossibilité d'obtenir une récupération totale.

Le président: Monsieur Hales.

M. Hales: Je pense que c'était là une question très intéressante qu'a soulevée monsieur Robinson.

Prenons par exemple la question de la sous-location des terrains ou des biens. Souvent le gouvernement va louer un bâtiment, parfois les conditions changent et le ministère doit partir et même si le bail n'est pas terminé, il doit sous-louer. Alors qui fixe ces taux de sous-location? Normalement on ne peut pas obtenir le prix que paye le gouvernement pour cette location. Par conséquent,

la sous-location se fait à un taux inférieur déterminé par le Conseil du Trésor et, comme M. Robinson l'a dit, il faudrait qu'on voit clairement qu'il s'agit d'un loyer complet et que la perte encourue soit inscrite sur un autre registre. Alors dans ce cas-ci, quelle serait l'attitude du gouvernement?

M. Drury: Eh bien, cela dépendra en fait de l'importance de l'opération. Si le gouvernement a loué des locaux pour $120.00 par mois et qu'il ne peut que le sous-louer à $115.00 par mois, eh bien, cela ne sera pas soumis au Conseil du Trésor, mais sera, disons, à la discrétion du ministère qui cherchera à obtenir le rembousement total.

M. Hales: A quel niveau est-ce que cela pourrait aller au Conseil du Trésor dans le même ordre d'idée par exemple?

M. Drury: Je ne connais pas les chiffres exacts; en fait je n'ai pas les chiffres précis portant sur les pouvoirs dont dispose le ministère pour entreprendre une location de son propre chef.

Le président: L'article 6, adopté?

L'article 6 est adopté.

Le président: L'article 7?

M. Robinson: Monsieur le président, l'article 7 m'inquiète un petit peu, peut-être parce que je ne le comprends pas complètement. Mais d'après ce que je crois savoir, dans le passé il fallait faire mention de toute dette ou de toute réclamation soumise contre ou en faveur de Sa Majesté la Reine en droit du Canada pour les articles de $1,000.00 et plus et je crois savoir qu'ici on veut porter ce montant à $5,000.00 et plus. C'est bien cela?

M. Drury: C'est exact.

M. Robinson: Alors, je me demande pourquoi nous le faisons et pourquoi nous vou-

[*Text*]

that we will be concerned with? In other words, as I understand it there can be a breakdown of items in any estimate or any vote that could be down to the point of $5,000 or below. An accumulation of this total could be quite a sizable amount and it would seem that if this is implemented the way it now stands, there would be no checks on this amount whatsoever by anybody.

Mr. Drury: In respect of individual items, the limit for a long while has been $1,000. Departments which now have responsibility for expending substantially higher sums than $1,000 without any formal further authority from either the Treasury Board or the Governor in Council should, I think, be vested with the responsibility for dealing with uncollectable debts up to a figure of $5,000 if they have been successfully dealing with figures up to $1,000 for a very long while. This is subject, of course, to the safeguard that all these transactions will be reported in the public accounts.

Mr. Robinson: Could such a thing as this happen, let us say, with regard to the collection of income tax or the payment of income tax? Would this section allow a department head or a deputy to write off as losses to the Canadian Government all items owing for income tax of $5,000 and less by all Canadian citizens and, by the same token, could you also say that they would not endeavour to collect any items under $5,000?

Mr. Drury: No. There is no suggestion here that there should be any relaxation at all of the fullest efforts to collect any amount owing.

Mr. Robinson: I recall asking you a question with regard to losses through the Industrial Development Bank and I bring this up once again. It seems that there is some discretion somewhere whereby you just write off certain losses. Perhaps it is a question of not carrying it on inventory because there is probably no possibility of recovery. I do not know. I have never had it explained that way. It seems to me it is considered that $5,000 really does not mean very much. Certainly in my finite mind it means a great deal. I think all members of Parliament would agree that if an extra $5,000 were added to our stipend it would help a great deal. I am not about to write it off as this proposal suggests at the moment.

[*Interpretation*]

drions le faire et si c'est ce que nous voulons, est-ce qu'il y a un maximum total qui nous intéresserait? Autrement dit, d'après ce que j'ai cru comprendre, il pourrait y avoir une ventilation des articles de chaque crédit ou de chaque prévision jusqu'à $5,000.00 et en dessous. L'accumulation de cette totalité pourra représenter une somme importante et il me semble que si cela est appliqué dans la manière où cela se présente, personne ne pourra plus vérifier ces montants désormais.

M. Drury: Eh bien, en ce qui concerne chaque rubrique particulière, la limite depuis longtemps a été de $1,000.00. Les ministères qui ont maintenant le pouvoir de dépenser des sommes supérieures à $1,000.00, sans obtenir l'autorisation d'aucune autre autorité, que ce soit le Conseil du Trésor ou le gouverneur en conseil, devraient se voir confier également la responsabilité de régler les dettes non récupérables jusqu'à $5,000.00 s'ils ont réussi à régler les questions de $1,000.00 pendant un certain temps. Bien sûr, il faudrait que toutes ces transactions soient portées aux comptes publics.

M. Robinson: Est-ce qu'il pourrait se produire la chose suivante par exemple, en ce qui concerne le recouvrement des impôts sur le revenu ou pour le paiement des impôts sur le revenu? Est-ce que, disons, ce chapitre permettrait à un chef de ministère ou à un sous-chef de radier, comme perte pour le gouvernement canadien, toutes les rubriques d'impôt sur le revenu inférieures à $5,000.00 pour tous les citoyens canadiens et par la même occasion, diriez-vous qu'ils ne chercheront pas à récupérer les articles inférieurs à $5,000.

M. Drury: Non. Il n'est pas prévu ici qu'il y ait un relâchement quel qu'il soit dans la recherche la plus totale de recouvrer tous les montants dus.

M. Robinson: Bien, je me souviens d'avoir posé une question en ce qui concerne les pertes encourues par la Banque d'expansion industrielle. Encore une fois, il semblerait que, à un moment, il est possible d'annuler sur le livre certaines pertes. Peut-être est-ce qu'on ne les met pas sur l'inventaire, parce qu'il n'est pas possible de les récupérer. Je ne sais pas. On ne me l'a pas expliqué de cette façon mais, il me semble que si on considère que $5,000 ne représentent pas grand-chose, eh bien, dans mon esprit très restreint, je pense que ça représente beaucoup. Et si chacun d'entre nous, avait $5,000 de plus en salaire, cela nous aiderait beaucoup. J'avoue que je ne suis pas d'accord de le rayer des livres.

[*Texte*]

Mr. Drury: If you read this particular section carefully you will see that it does not authorize departments to write these off. It merely allows the Treasury Board to make regulations governing write-offs of this kind.

Mr. Robinson: This sounds like an exercise in semantics to me, Mr. Drury. I would certainly need to have something a little more explanatory than that.

Mr. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Could you give us an example?

Mr. Drury: I think the Treasury Board is as concerned as anyone to see that the most complete endeavours have been made to secure amounts owing to the Crown. The steps taken vary in relation to the particular transaction. The steps taken to recover under an industrial development loan are likely to be less rigorous and less punitive than steps taken to recover amounts owing under the Income Tax Act or the gift tax act.

Mr. Robinson: Are you suggesting that we have a different policy, depending on whether it is a giveaway program or not?

Mr. Drury: We have the same policy—that as much should be collected as can be—but obviously the circumstances will vary with the degree of insistence on sacrifice by the individual, whether it is an income tax claim or a claim under the industrial development act.

Mr. Robinson: I fail to see the subtle distinction. On the one hand you say there is the same policy, and yet in one case we enforce it and in another case we do not necessarily enforce it as much.

Mr. Drury: I will suggest to you that the approach to a delinquent under the Income Tax Act would be a lot more severe than a man who found himself in financial difficulties with an industrial development loan. I think perhaps under the Income Tax Act one would virtually be prepared to seize and sell his house and furnishings. I am not sure there should be the same degree of personal recourse under an industrial development loan. The reason for this is that the object in advancing industrial development loans is to share risks and to encourage people to take chances. If they take a chance and it goes

[*Interprétation*]

M. Drury: Cet article, si on le lit très soigneusement, ne donne pas l'autorisation aux ministères de supprimer leurs dettes, il donne simplement le droit au Conseil du Trésor de fixer des règlements quant aux radiations de ce genre.

M. Robinson: Pour moi, il ne semble qu'il s'agit d'un exercice de sémantique. Monsieur le président, je pense qu'il faudra une autre explication plus complète que cela.

M. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Est-ce que vous pouvez nous citer un exemple monsieur le président?

M. Drury: Le Conseil du Trésor, je pense, s'essaye comme chacun de veiller à ce que tous les efforts possibles soient faits pour récupérer les dettes dues à la Couronne. Les mesures prises diffèrent selon le genre de transactions impliquées. Les mesures prises pour récupérer des montants dans le cadre d'un développement industriel seront vraisemblablement beaucoup moins rigoureuses, moins punitives que les mesures prises pour récupérer des dettes dans le cadre des impôts sur le revenu ou sur l'accise.

M. Robinson: Autrement dit vous voulez dire que nous avons une politique différente selon qu'il s'agit d'un programme de prêts ou non.

M. Drury: Et bien nous avons la même politique dans la mesure où on peut éviter ce recouvrement. Il est évident que les circonstances sont variées quant à l'insistance, disons quant à l'insistant du sacrifice de l'individu, selon qu'il s'agisse d'une poursuite, d'une réclamation d'impôts sur le revenu ou bien d'une réclamation en vertu de la Loi sur le développement industriel.

M. Robinson: J'avoue que je ne comprends pas très bien la subtile distinction. Vous dites d'une part qu'il s'agit de la même politique, et puis après on l'applique dans un cas et que dans un autre cas on ne l'applique pas.

M. Drury: Et bien, si je peux dire par exemple, pour quelqu'un qui ne paie pas son impôt sur le revenu les mesures prises seraient beaucoup plus graves que pour quelqu'un qui se trouve dans des difficultés financières dans le cadre d'un prêt de développement industriel. Je pense que pour l'impôt sur le revenu, on est prêt à saisir sa maison et ses meubles et à les vendre. Je ne suis pas certain que l'on envisage le même genre de mesures personnelles dans le cadre d'un prêt de développement industriel. Et cela s'explique, parce que le but d'un prêt de développement industriel c'est de partager les risques

[*Text*]

wrong, you do not want to grind them right into the ground when we take a judgment.

• 1705

Mr. Robinson: Then can we assume that this is really the policy, and if it is a change in policy this is the way it should be written up in the act. I can think of people who would be more than happy to have an industrial development loan if this could be arranged under a policy as limited as this.

Mr. Drury: I think you will find that the Industrial Development Bank does not pursue personal recourse in cases of default under its loans. If it did it would find that very few people would come to it. The object of any bank, which is to encourage industrial development and chance-taking, would be partly defeated.

The Chairman: Mr. Hales.

Mr. Hales: Mr. Chairman, I concur in the remarks of the former speaker on this point. If the principle as outlined in the former section of the act is right, that the Cabinet has the right to delete from the accounts any obligation or debt due Her Majesty or any claim by Her Majesty that does not exceed $1,000, then that principle is still correct today. All we are dealing with here is raising the amount from $1,000 to $5,000, and on the explanation the Minister has given us so far I fail to see why we should raise that amount from $1,000 to $5,000.

Mr. Robinson: As a supplementary question, does the Minister have any figures...

The Chairman: Mr. Robinson, please. Are you through with your question, Mr. Hales?

Mr. Hales: I have one other part to that. I understand that we are deleting section 23. In Part II of section 23 of the old act it says that all these deletions shall be reported in the public accounts for that year. I take it in the new act we are not even going to report these deletions in the public accounts.

Mr. Drury: Subsection (2) of the clause we are studying says:

> The obligations, debts and claims deleted from the Public Accounts under this section during any year shall be reported in the Public Accounts for that year."

[*Interpretation*]

et d'encourager les gens à courir des risques. Si quelqu'un court un risque et que ça ne marche pas, on ne veut pas les couler jusqu'au fond.

M. Robinson: Ainsi on pourrait donc considérer que c'est là la politique suivie et que s'il y a un changement dans la politique ça devrait figurer comme tel dans la loi. Moi, je connais un tas de gens qui seraient heureux de bénéficier d'un prêt de développement industriel, si les conditions en sont si faciles.

M. Drury: Vous vous apercevrez que la Banque d'expansion industrielle ne cherche pas à prendre un jugement personnel contre un individu en cas de défaut. Si c'est le cas, on s'aperçoit que cette procédure est très rarement utilisée. Le but de cela est de chercher à favoriser le développement industriel et les risques sans ça seraient un peu inutilisés.

Le président: Monsieur Hales.

M. Hales: Monsieur le président, à ce sujet je partage les remarques du confrère qui m'a précédé et le principe énoncé à l'ancien article de la loi. A ce moment-là, le cabinet a le droit d'effacer des comptes toutes obligations ou dettes dues à sa Majesté ou toutes réclamations dues à sa Majesté ne dépassant pas $1,000. Ce principe est encore valable aujourd'hui. Tout ce que l'on fait c'est de faire passer ce montant de $1,000 à $5,000. Et je ne vois vraiment pas au su des explications que le ministre nous a données jusqu'à présent, pourquoi nous devrions faire passer ce montant de $1,000 à $5,000.

M. Robinson: Question complémentaire, est-ce que le ministre...

Le président: Monsieur Robinson, s'il-vous-plaît. Est-ce que vous avez terminé monsieur Hales?

M. Hales: Simplement un autre point à ce sujet. Je crois savoir que nous supprimons l'article 23. A la partie II de l'article 23 de l'ancienne loi il est dit: «Toutes ces suppressions doivent figurer dans les Comptes publics de l'année en cours.» Alors je dois conclure, que selon la nouvelle loi, nous n'allons même pas tenir compte de ces suppressions dans les Comptes publics.

M. Drury: L'alinéa 2 dit que:

> «les suppressions doivent être indiquées dans les comptes publics de cette année là».

[*Texte*]

Mr. Hales: Then that is going to remain the same as it was before.

Mr. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): What is the reason for that?

Mr. Drury: The purpose of raising this is merely to recognize the fact that with the tremendous increase in volume of total business perhaps $1,000 does not have the same significance now that it had 20 years ago.

Mr. Hales: I do not think we can really accept that.

Mr. Drury: Would you suggest, Mr. Hales, that we make it $50?

Mr. Hales: No. I would suggest we leave it at $1,000 because the people who are handling the collection of this money are not under the same pressure to collect it as they would be if the money belonged to an individual. I think if we raise it to $5,000 there will be less effort and less concern about collecting these small accounts and we will be doing something that is not in keeping with the protection of the taxpayer's dollar.

Mr. Drury: What we are generally trying to do in this act is to make government departments more responsible, to decentralize authority and say, "We are going to treat you fellows as adults", without in any way limiting the emphasis on collection of all the moneys owning to the Crown. If we say, "Before you can delete an account for $1,200, which deletion will subsequently be published in the Public Accounts, you have to refer the matter to Treasury Board and invoke the whole apparatus there to get authority to do this".

• 1710

This would not be treating them like adults. It is an indication that you are not prepared to put responsibility on them. Nothing has changed from 20 years ago. If it is the object of the members of the Committee to regulate in the greatest possible detail every financial transaction of the government, this is what I think Glassco correctly inveighed against and why he recommended decentralization.

What is being sought here is not an act of forgiveness; it is vesting in the Treasury Board the ability, the power and the authority to prescribe a general framework of conditions governing deletion of debts under $5,000.

[*Interprétation*]

M. Hales: Donc ça va rester, ah bon, très bien.

M. Thomson: Cela va donc rester tel quel?

M. Drury: Le but de cette modification du plafond est dû au fait que l'augmentation du volume des affaires est telle que $1,000 n'a peut-être plus la même importance maintenant qu'il y a vingt ans.

M. Hales: Et bien, je ne pense pas que l'on puisse véritablement accepter cet argument.

M. Drury: Vous voudriez que nous mettions $50?

M. Hales: Non, non, je voudrais que l'on maintienne ce chiffre de $1,000 pour la raison suivante. Les gens qui s'occupent de recouvrer cet argent ne subissent pas les mêmes pressions pour recouvrer cet argent que si cet argent appartenait à un individu. Et je pense que si on monte cette somme à $5,000 beaucoup moins d'efforts seront faits et les gens se soucieront encore moins de recouvrer les petites dettes. Par conséquent, nous allons suivre une politique qui ne protège pas le dollar du contribuable.

M. Drury: Eh bien, ce que nous cherchons à faire dans ce texte, c'est de rendre les différents ministères plus responsables de décentraliser l'autorité. Et sans pour autant limiter l'importance du recouvrement de toutes les dettes dues à la couronne. Si nous leurs disons «qu'avant qu'ils puissent radier, un compte de $1,200, qui par la suite figurera dans les Comptes publics, il leur faut renvoyer l'affaire devant le Conseil du Trésor et, de prouver alors la nécessité de la radiation.

A mon avis, ce n'est pas de traiter les gens comme des adultes. Cela indique simplement que l'on n'est pas disposé à leur confier des responsabilités. C'est toujours la même chose depuis vingt ans. Et si les membres du comité veulent réglementer dans tous les détails possibles toutes les transactions financières du gouvernement eh bien, c'est là ce contre quoi la commission Glassco, à juste titre je pense, s'est élevée et c'est pour cette même raison qu'ils ont recommandé la décentralisation.

Et ce que nous faisons ici, ce n'est pas un acte de pardon, mais simplement le moyen de donner au Conseil du Trésor le pouvoir et l'autorité de fixer les conditions générales régissant la suppression des dettes inférieures à $5,000.

[*Text*]

Now all these debts are examined prior to deletion by an interdepartmental committee made up of those charged with the job, on behalf of departments, of enforcing these collection operations. So that we have a standard approach across the government and an exchange of information and techniques on collecting debts due.

Mr. Hales: Could the Minister say whether or not the government uses the services of professional collection agencies?

Mr. Drury: Yes.

Mr. Hales: I would agree with the Minister in all respects until it comes to the matter of collecting money, and then I say that we should regulate to the greatest detail the collection of funds. I say this because we are dealing with money that belongs to somebody else—it is not our own money—and we must regulate to the greatest detail the collection of that money. Therefore I would not be in favour of raising that above the $1,000 figure.

Mr. Drury: Then I suggest, Mr. Chairman, that we should apply the same principle to the spending.

Mr. Hales: Yes, I agree.

Mr. Drury: Then no department should be authorized to spend a thousand dollars or more without specific authority from Treasury Board? Well, this is the logic of the position you cannot trust the departments to spend a thousand dollars.

The Chairman: Mr. Clermont.

M. Clermont: J'ai une question à poser à monsieur le ministre. Depuis quand le plafond de $1,000 existe-t-il?

M. Drury: Je pense qu'il existe depuis assez longtemps.

M. Clermont: Vous n'avez pas une idée plus précise. A deux ou trois reprises, vous avez parlé de vingt ans.

M. Drury: C'est au moins dix ans; mais je serais porté à croire que c'est vingt ans.

Le président: Monsieur Alkenbrack?

Mr. Alkenbrack: I would point out to the Minister that there is a vast difference between legal expenditure as authorized by the Minister and default. There is no analogy between the two. We are talking about the default of payment of accounts to the government, to Her Majesty.

Now the Minister has tried to assure us that the endeavours in the future will be just

[*Interpretation*]

Toutes ces dettes sont examinées avant leur suppression par le comité interministériel composé de ceux qui ont pour rôle, dans leur ministère, d'appliquer les méthodes de collecte. Par conséquent, il y a uniformité dans tout le gouvernement et un échange de renseignements et de techniques de recouvrement des dettes.

M. Hales: Est-ce que le Ministre pourrait nous dire si oui ou non le gouvernement utilise les services de percepteurs professionnels.

M. Drury: Oui.

M. Hales: Je suis d'accord avec le Ministre sauf pour la question de recouvrement de l'argent. Je crois qu'il faudrait réglementer dans les plus grands détails le recouvrement des fonds, parce que nous avons affaire à de l'argent qui appartient à quelqu'un d'autre. Ce n'est pas notre argent et il faut réglementer en détail le recouvrement de ces dettes. Par conséquent, je ne suis pas d'accord pour qu'on élève ce chiffre à plus de $1,000.

M. Drury: Eh bien, monsieur, je pense qu'il faudrait faire la même chose pour les dépenses.

M. Hales: Vous avez raison.

M. Drury: Alors aucun ministère ne devrait avoir l'autorité de dépenser plus de $1,000 sans l'autorisation du Conseil du Trésor. C'est logique. On ne peux pas faire confiance aux ministères pour dépenser $1,000.

Le président: M. Clermont.

Mr. Clermont: Just a question to the Minister. Since when has this $1,000 ceiling been established?

Mr. Drury: I believe it was established quite a while ago.

Mr. Clermont: Couldn't you tell us more specifically? On two or three occasions you referred to 20 years.

Mr. Drury: It is at least 10 years, but I rather think it is 20 years.

The Chairman: Mr. Alkenbrack?

M. Alkenbrack: Monsieur le président, je voudrais indiquer au Ministre qu'il y a une très grande différence entre les dépenses légales autorisées par le Ministre et les impayés. Il n'y a aucune comparaison entre les deux. Nous parlons du non paiement de comptes dû au gouvernement, à sa Majesté.

Le ministre s'est efforcé de nous assurer que dans l'avenir ses efforts seront aussi

[*Texte*]

as thorough as in the past to collect this money. If so, then why is the minimum of tolerance being raised to five times the amount under the old act? You cannot get away from those facts. I point out that at either the second last or the last meeting of this Commtitee—I was present at the time—we passed on page 24 of the Supplementary Estimates for the fiscal year ending March 31, 1969, $7,267,768.60 worth of defaulted debts to Canada.

The Chairman: That was in the Supplementary Estimates.

Mr. Alkenbrack: Yes, in the Supplementary Estimates. Now that consisted of 781 debts or claims, as recorded on this page. Now even last year the government was not following the law because that in itself amounts to over $1,000 of a minimum tolerance per debt. In fact, mathematically—I know they could not all be equal, they are made up of various sums—it amounts to $10,000 per incidence of default, which indicates that we are not following even the $1,000 minimum—or you are not.

• 1715

Mr. Drury: I beg to differ, Mr. Chairman, we are.

Mr. Alkenbrack: Then how could 781 debts total over $7.25 million?

Mr. Drury: The present law that we are discussing reads that the Treasury Board has the authority to prescribe regulations under which debts less than $1,000 may be deleted. The Treasury Board cannot prescribe any regulations relating to debts larger than $1,000. It has to deal with debts larger than this individually.

Now the suggestion is that the Treasury Board be given authority to prescribe regulations under which debts between $1,000 and $5,000 can be deleted and deal with the larger ones, as it has in the past, on an individual basis.

The technique for dealing with the larger debts is to get from the interdepartmental committee a recommendation as to write-offs. And this recommendation has to be supported by evidence that all steps that have been taken and could be taken to secure collection have been unsuccessful. Following this the Treasury Board will recommend that it deleted. The amount to be deleted is then entered into the Estimates account and also entered into the public accounts.

[*Interprétation*]

grands que par le passé pour recouvrer cet argent. Alors pourquoi le minimum de tolérance est-il quintuplé par rapport au montant précédent? On ne peut pas fermer les yeux sur les faits. Je crois que c'était à l'avant-dernière ou la dernière réunion de ce comité, nous avons voté, à la page 24 du Budget supplémentaire pour l'année financière se terminant le 31 mars 1969, un crédit de $7,267,768 de dettes non payées.

Le président: C'était dans le Budget supplémentaire.

M. Alkenbrack: Oui, il s'agissait de 781 dettes comme on l'indique ici. Le gouvernement ne s'en tenait pas à la Loi parce que, en fait, cela dépasse les $1,000. Je sais que mathématiquement cela se monte à $10,000 par dette. On ne s'en tient donc pas à la limite de tolérance de $1,000.

M. Drury: Je ne suis pas d'accord, monsieur le président.

M. Alkenbrack: Mais comment, monsieur le président, est-ce que 781 créances peuvent représenter $7.25 millions?

M. Drury: D'après la loi que nous étudions le Conseil du Trésor a le pouvoir de fixer des règlements en vertu desquels les dettes inférieures à $1,000 peuvent être supprimées, annulées. Le Conseil du Trésor ne peut pas fixer de règlements relatifs aux dettes supérieures à $1,000. Il doit étudier séparément les dettes supérieures à ce chiffre. On propose maintenant d'autoriser le Conseil du Trésor à établir des règlements en vertu desquels les dettes d'entre $1,000 et $5,000, puissent être annulées et continue d'étudier les dettes supérieures, comme par le passé, sur une base individuelle.

La technique pour voir au règlement des dettes plus importantes est d'obtenir du comité interministériel une recommandation quant à savoir si l'on devrait oublier la dette ou non. Cette recommandation doit être appuyée par la preuve que toutes les mesures prises, ou qu'on aurait pu prendre, pour assurer le recouvrement ont échoué. Puis le Conseil du Trésor recommandera que cette somme soit supprimée et indiquée ensuite dans le budget et dans les comptes publics.

[*Text*]

Mr. Alkenbrack: Mr. Chairman, does that then mean that the government will be forgiving debts of more than $1,000 or, if this bill passes, of more than $5,000 on recommendation of the Minister?

Mr. Drury: On recommendation of the Treasury Board.

Mr. Alkenbrack: Of the Treasury Board, yes.

Mr. Drury: That is correct.

Mr. Alkenbrack: And the Minister responsible, in respect of more than $5,000.

Mr. Drury: Of more than $5,000. I would not like the impression to be created that this is seeking authority to forgive. This is not forgiveness. And the entry to which you are referring here in no way reduces the obligation of the man to pay or the government to

• 1720

continue to pursue. What it does is secure authorization from Parliament to remove from the list of assets in the balance sheet what is regarded as an uncollectable debt. There is no use continuing to show year after year as an account receivable a sum of money that we know there is no hope of collecting. This is just really falsifying the accounts.

This has nothing to do with writing off the obligation to repay. It merely is authority to delete from the asset side of the ledger uncollectable amounts.

Mr. Alkenbrack: Mr. Chairman, the Minister is now out in the open and admitting that they are forgiving debts currently of more than $1,000...

Mr. Drury: Mr. Chairman, on a point of order...

Mr. Alkenbrack: ...explainable of course because...

Mr. Drury: Mr. Chairman, on a point of order, I am not admitting that we are forgiving. I have been trying to explain that this has nothing to do with forgiveness. This is deletion from the asset side of the balance sheet of what is regarded as an uncollectable debt. Now you as a Member of Parliament should be concerned that the government is not reporting to you a lot of phoney assets—uncollectable debts. These should be deleted from the asset side. And this is what we are discussing—the removal from the listing of accounts payable and conveying with them a

[*Interpretation*]

M. Alkenbrack: Monsieur le président, est-ce que cela veut dire alors que le gouvernement va remettre les dettes de plus de $1,000 ou, si on adopte le présent projet de loi, de plus de $5,000 sur la recommandation du ministre?

M. Drury: Sur la recommandation du Conseil du Trésor.

M. Alkenbrack: Du Conseil du Trésor, oui.

M. Drury: En effet.

M. Alkenbrack: Et du ministre responsable, pour les dettes de plus de $5,000.

M. Drury: De plus de $5,000. Je ne voudrais pas qu'on crée l'impression que l'on cherche l'autorité de remettre les dettes. Il ne s'agit pas de remise de dettes. L'inscription à laquelle vous faites allusion ne réduit aucunement l'obligation qu'a l'individu de payer, ni le gouvernement de chercher à recouvrer la dette. Tout ce que nous cherchons, c'est obtenir l'autorisation du parlement de supprimer dans la liste des actifs du bilan une dette qu'on ne peut recouvrer. Il est inutile d'indiquer, une année après l'autre, comme compte à recevoir, une somme qu'on ne pourra jamais recouvrer. C'est tout simplement falsifier les comptes.

Cela n'a rien à voir avec le fait que l'on supprime l'obligation de rembourser. Il s'agit tout simplement de l'autorisation de supprimer, à l'actif du grand livre, les sommes que l'on ne pourra jamais recouvrer.

M. Alkenbrack: Monsieur le président, le ministre admet donc qu'on va remettre des dettes de plus de $1,000...

M. Drury: J'en appelle au Règlement, monsieur le président...

M. Alkenbrack: ... justifiables, bien sûr, car...

M. Drury: Monsieur le président, j'en appelle au Règlement. Je n'admets pas que nous allions remettre ces dettes. Je viens d'expliquer que cela n'a rien à voir avec une remise de dettes, il s'agit d'une suppression, à l'actif du bilan, de ce que l'on peut considérer comme une dette non recouvrable. Vous, à titre de député, vous devriez vous préoccuper du fait que le gouvernement vous cache un bon nombre de faux actifs, de dettes irrécouvrables. Voilà ce qu'on devrait retrancher de l'actif. C'est de cela que nous discutons, leur suppression de la liste des comptes à recevoir,

[*Texte*]

listing; then, if you are going to collect this money, removing from that listing those that appear to be uncollectable, but this is not forgiving them. The obligation continues to exist and will continue to be pushed. I am not admitting that the government is forgiving very large debts.

Mr. Alkenbrack: Mr. Chairman, it is established, then, that we are forgiving from time to time or currently, as I have said, debts of more than $1,000 and even more than $5,000, which is going to be an example of the new minimum.

Mr. Drury: Mr. Chairman, I have great difficulty in making myself understood. We are not forgiving anything. I am not; perhaps you are.

Mr. Alkenbrack: Well, you did.

Mr. Drury: I deny that.

Mr. Alkenbrack: Parliament did last week when they authorized you to write off this $7 million figure. I recall, Mr. Chairman, that a question was asked in the national revenue taxation class about 450 debts amounting to $3,918,070.37. The question was asked regarding some prominent person who was reported to have owed income tax. It was asked if that was forgiven. We did not get an answer to that, but that item I know was...

The Chairman: I am sorry, Mr. Alkenbrack; we are not studying that matter at all. We are just studying the increase from $1,000 to $5,000 in the proposed Section 23.

Mr. Drury: I would insist again, Mr. Chairman, that this particular Section conveys no right to forgive. It merely deals with the deletion from the public accounts of unrealistic assets.

Mr. Alkenbrack: Mr. Chairman, I submit that the possibility of collecting some of these claims depends on the timing of the government's efforts to collect.

The Chairman: Concerning this matter, I think your question should have been asked when we discussed the Supplementary Estimates. I am sorry. Mr. Crossman?

Mr. Crossman: In relation to what Mr. Alkenbrack was talking about, I should think, as an example, that in a municipality where uncollectable taxes are written off every year the person owing that tax can still be prose-

[*Interprétation*]

et leur renvoi sur une autre liste. Alors si vous devez recouvrer cet argent, rayant du bordereau les effets qui ne semblent pas recouvrables, cela ne veut pas dire que tout est pardonné. L'obligation demeure et les efforts de recouvrement seront maintenus. Je ne consens pas à admettre que le gouvernement efface des dettes très considérables.

M. Alkenbrack: Monsieur le président, il est donc établi que nous faisons grâce, de temps à autre ou couramment, pour des dettes de plus de $1000 et même de plus de $5000, ce qui servira d'exemple quant au nouveau minimum.

M. Drury: Je ne me fais pas comprendre facilement. Nous ne pardonnons rien. Non, j'ai dis que nous ne pardonnons rien. Moi pas; vous peut-être?

M. Alkenbrack: Bien, vous l'avez fait.

M. Drury: Je nie cette affirmation.

M. Alkenbrack: Mais le parlement l'a fait la semaine dernière lorsqu'il vous a autorisé à oublier cette somme de sept millions et quelques milliers de dollars. Je me souviens monsieur le président que la question a été posée au ministère du revenu national au sujet de 450 dettes dont le total atteignait $3,918,070.37. La question a été posée relativement à une personne de marque qui, disait-on, devait de l'impôt sur le revenu. On a demandé si cette dette avait été remise. Nous n'avons pas obtenu de réponse mais ce cas, je le sais...

Le président: Monsieur Alkenbrack, je regrette nous n'étudions absolument pas cette question. Nous discutons plutôt de l'augmentation du montant de $1,000 à $5,000 à l'article 230 qui est proposé.

M. Drury: Cet article ne comporte aucun droit de remise de dette. Cela n'a trait qu'à la radiation des comptes publics des actifs irréalisables.

M. Alkenbrack: Monsieur le président, je crois que le recouvrement de ces dettes dépend souvent de réglage des efforts du gouvernement en vue de recouvrer les sommes.

Le président: A ce sujet il me semble que vous auriez dû poser votre question quand nous avons discuté des crédits supplémentaires. Je regrette.

M. Crossman: En poursuivant les questions posées par M. Alkenbrack à titre d'exemple, je croirais que dans une municipalité où des taxes irrécupérables sont oubliées chaque année, la personne qui doit ces taxes peut

[*Text*]

cuted and made to pay, even though it is written off.

Mr. Drury: That is correct.

Mr. Crossman: He is not forgiven, but it is considered a non-collectable tax as far as the books are concerned.

My question is: in the case of arrears of payment or non-payment to commissions or boards such as CMHC and the Farm Loan Board, would this apply as well?

Mr. Drury: Under this the Treasury Board may prescribe regulations for the deletion of bad debts from the accounts of up to $1,000. It will enable them to prescribe the conditions under which deletions can occur up to $5,000. It will also apply to the Farm Loan Board.

• 1725

Mr. Robinson: I have a supplementary. The Minister mentioned something about uncollectable debts. Would you say that an uncollectable debt is one where there is no personal covenant to pay as would be the case, say, with income tax where there is a personal covenant to pay? I assume you would not be writing off personal income tax debts but possibly only income tax owed by a company that had gone out of business, where the liability was on the company and was not a personal covenant.

Mr. Drury: I suggest that would be one case. If an individual against whom the Income Tax Department had a claim were to die having no estate, there is not much use carrying that claim on the books ad infinitum. It should be deleted. There is nobody from whom you could collect it.

Mr. Crossman: Then there would be no limit to the amount in that case.

Mr. Drury: We are not discussing here the actual amounts to be deleted but the authority of the Treasury Board to prescribe regulations governing small debts less than $5,000. The big ones still have to go through the interdepartmental committee and come to Treasury Board on an individual basis.

Mr. Robinson: Are the debts cumulative over a period of years to make up the sum of

[*Interpretation*]

toujours être poursuivie et avoir à payer même si la dette a été radiée des registres.

M. Drury: C'est exact.

M. Crossman: Il n'y a pas de remise de dette mais elle est considérée comme irrecouvrable à titre comptable. Voici ma question: dans le cas d'un arrérage de paiement ou de défaut de payer à des commissions ou à des conseils comme la Société centrale d'hypothèques et de logement et le Bureau des prêts agricoles, les mêmes dispositions s'appliqueraient-elles?

M. Drury: Dans le moment, le Conseil du Trésor peut édicter des règlements prévoyant la radiation des mauvaises créances des registres comptables pour un montant de $1,000. La présente disposition stipulera les conditions en vertu desquelles un montant allant jusqu'à $5,000 pourra être radié. Il s'appliquera aussi au Bureau des prêts agricoles.

M. Robinson: J'avais une question supplémentaire. Le ministre a parlé des dettes non-recouvrables. Pourriez-vous dire qu'une dette non-recouvrable en est une pour laquelle il n'y a pas d'engagement de payer comme ce serait le cas par exemple pour l'impôt sur le revenu où il y a un engagement personnel de payer. Je présume que vous ne pourriez radier des impôts qui seraient dus, peut-être seulement les impôts sur le revenu dus par une société qui a fait faillite, la responsabilité de la dette étant imputable à la compagnie et n'étant pas une dette personnelle.

M. Drury: Il s'agirait là d'une instance. Si une personne contre qui le département de l'impôt a une revendication venait à mourir sans laisser de succession, rien ne servirait de garder cette somme dans les registres à l'infini. Elle devrait être radiée vu qu'il n'existe personne de qui vous pourriez la recouvrer.

M. Crossman: Dans ce cas-ci, il n'y aurait donc pas de limite?

M. **Drury:** Nous ne discutons pas ici les sommes qui doivent être radiées mais nous demandons au Conseil du trésor d'édicter des règlements portant sur les petites dettes de moins de $5,000, mais dans le cas des dettes plus importantes, il faut que les dettes soient discutées par le comité inter-ministériel et être présentées au Conseil du trésor à titre individuel.

M. Robinson: Les dettes sont-elles cumulatives avec les années pour former une somme

[*Texte*]

$5,000, or would they have to be considered as not more than $5,000 in any one year?

Mr. Drury: No, it would be the total obligation outstanding at any one time.

Mr. Robinson: In other words, could we assume that any department would have the authority under this new Section of the Act to write off, say, up to $5,000 for the same individual year after year after year?

Mr. Drury: I certainly hope the Treasury Board would not write that kind of regulation.

Mr. Robinson: I am just wondering. This is the interpretation we seem to have at the moment. There is no end to it. Should this not specify a cumulative amount of $5,000, or should we not stipulate some restriction?

These estimates come before us yearly in the House and in theory it could be that the same individual would get $4,000 written off this year, $3,000 next year, $5,000 the next year, and so on, indefinitely.

Frankly, I am not prepared to accept this kind of thing. Once again I bring up the Industrial Development Bank where money is lent to somebody; they lose money this year, they lose money next year and they lose money the following year, and you are just going to write it all off.

Mr. Drury: Mr. Chairman, in the case mentioned losses would be cumulative and the obligation would continue to increase. If there is a loss one year the debt would not be written off merely because they had a loss. I certainly hope that an endeavour would be made to convert that loss into a continuing obligation to be repaid when the company got into better circumstances.

Mr. Robinson: I just point that out as an indication of something that could happen. I know of a particular instance where an individual owed the government money one year; he got into another business the following year and owed money again, and I assume in both cases it was written off.

Mr. Hales: I have just one observation. I would like to ask the Minister whether or not the $7.25 million that we wrote off the other day as uncollectable were forgiven to the individual. There seems to a difference between "deletion" and "forgiveness".

[*Interprétation*]

de $5,000 ou devra-t-on les considérer comme ne dépassant pas $5,000 en aucune de ces années?

M. Drury: Non, ce serait la dette totale en souffrance à n'importe quel moment.

M. Robinson: Donc, tout ministère a l'autorisation, en vertu de cette nouvelle loi, d'oublier jusqu'à cinq mille dollars, dans le cas de la même personne, année après année?

M. Drury: J'espère que le Conseil du trésor n'établirait pas ce genre de règlement.

M. Robinson: Mais c'est l'interprétation que nous semblons donner à cet article à ce moment ici. C'est une chaîne sans fin. Ne devrait-on pas spécifier qu'il s'agit d'un montant cumulatif de $5,000 ou ne devrions-nous pas établir des restrictions?

Ces prévisions sont présentées à la Chambre à tous les ans et, théoriquement, la même personne fait annuler une dette de $4,000 cette année, $3,000 l'année suivante et $5,000 l'année d'après, indéfiniment. Je ne suis franchement pas prêt à accepter ce procédé. Encore une fois, je me reporte au cas de la Banque de développement industriel où l'on prête de l'argent à quelqu'un; elle perd de l'argent cette année, elle en perdra l'année prochaine et elle en perdra l'année suivante, et vous pourriez annuler toute la dette?

M. Drury: Dans le cas que l'on discute, les pertes seraient cumulatives et la dette à payer continuerait à augmenter. Si une perte était encourue une année, la dette ne serait pas annulée parce qu'une perte a été subie. Je suis certain qu'une tentative serait faite pour convertir cette dette continue qui devrait être remboursée quand les affaires de la société s'amélioreraient.

M. Robinson: Je voudrais signaler un cas qui pourrait se produire. Je connais le cas particulier d'une personne qui, une année, devait de l'argent au gouvernement; il se lança dans une autre affaire l'année suivante et s'endetta une deuxième fois. Je présume que, dans les deux cas, la dette a été annulée.

M. Hales: Une observation. Je voudrais poser une question au ministre à savoir si on a accordé une remise de dette à la personne qui devait les sept millions et quart que nous avons annulés l'autre jour à titre de compte non recouvrable? Il semble y avoir une différence entre une radiation et une remise de dette.

[*Text*]

Mr. Drury: Yes, there are provisions for forgiveness under Section 22 of the Financial Administration Act, and the itemization you are referring to is not forgiveness. That is the removal from the public accounts, the national balance sheet, of debts which, in the view of the collecting officers, are uncollectable. This is an accounting operation; it is not forgiveness.

Mr. Hales: So they are still collectable if they want to go after them.

Mr. Drury: Mr. Chairman, let us suppose a man owes the government $1,000 on income tax account and he dies leaving no estate. The public accounts show that G. Hales owes $1,000 and after the department ascertains that this fellow is dead and has no estate, the suggestion is that the sensible thing to do is to eliminate this $1,000 from our assets. I cannot really accept the suggestion if we really wanted to do so we could go ahead and collect this from you.

• 1730

Mr. Hales: All right.

Mr. Robinson: On a point of order, Mr. Chairman. I hope the Minister is not suggesting the immediate demise of our good friend Mr. Hales.

Mr. Hales: I have one more question in that regard. I understand some departments of government do not have an accounts controllable system. By this I mean that they start off with a given control figure, they add to that accounts owing and subtract accounts payable and that figure must be in control all the time. I understand this system is not in operation in some of the government departments. Is that right?

Mr. Drury: No, that is not my understanding.

Mr. Hales: All departments of government have an accounts controllable system?

Mr. Drury: I am not too clear as to what is meant by accounts controllable system. This is a term of art which...

Mr. Hales: As I explained, there is a figure that they start with and to that they add all the sales that the department made, they subtract from that all the amounts of moneys that have been paid, and the resulting figure should coincide with the control figure. That is an accounts receivable or control system. Maybe the officials can say whether this is in

[*Interpretation*]

M. Drury: Oui, il y a des dispositions pour la remise de dette.

L'article 22 de la Loi sur l'administration financière ne prévoit pas de remise de dette dans le cas que vous mentionnez. C'est la radiation du bilan national des comptes publics de dettes qui, de l'avis des percepteurs, ne sont pas recouvrables. C'est une opération comptable, ce n'est pas une remise de dette.

M. Hales: Donc, on peut encore recouvrer ces dettes si on veut bien s'en occuper.

M. Drury: Si un homme doit au gouvernement mille dollars en impôt sur le revenu et s'il meurt sans laisser de succession, les comptes publics révèlent que M. G. Hales doit $1,000. Le ministère s'assure que la personne est bien décédée et qu'il n'a pas laissé de succession. La seule chose censée qui reste à faire est de radier ce $1,000 de notre actif. Je ne peux vraiment pas accepter l'idée qui a été proposée de m'adresser à vous pour recouvrer cette somme.

M. Hales: C'est bien.

M. Robinson: J'invoque le règlement monsieur le président. J'espère que le ministre ne propose pas la mort immédiate de notre bon ami, M. Hales.

M. Hales: Une autre question sur le même sujet. Je comprends que dans certains ministères, il n'y a pas un système de régularisation des comptes. Ils ont un chiffre de contrôle auquel ils ajoutent les comptes payables et enlèvent tous les comptes à payer. Ce chiffre doit être contrôlé continuellement. Ce système n'est pas utilisé dans certains ministères, si je comprends bien.

M. Drury: Non, ce n'est pas ce que je comprends.

M. Hales: Est-ce que tous les ministères du gouvernement ont un système de contrôle des comptes?

M. Drury: Je ne sais au juste ce que vous voulez dire par un système de contrôle des comptes.

M. Hales: Il y a un chiffre de départ auquel ils ajoutent toutes les rentes du ministère; ils en soustraient les sommes payées et les chiffres qui résultent de ces opérations devraient coïncider avec les chiffres de contrôle. C'est celà un système de contrôle des comptes à percevoir. Peut-être les fonctionnaires peuvent nous dire si ce système sert dans tous les

[*Texte*]

operation in all departments. If it is I would consider maybe changing this, and if it is not in operation I would not for one minute consider raising that amount from $1,000 to $5,000.

Mr. Drury: Mr. Chairman, there are very few government departments which have any authority to engage in sales.

Mr. Hales: They all sell goods. The Department of Agriculture sells farm produce and National Defence...

Mr. Drury: I think in the Department of Agriculture there is this system of control which you suggest.

Mr. Hales: The reason I ask this is that I have always held that the person who sets up a poor system is as guilty as the person who robs that system, and I think that we should have that system. If an account has been deleted for five years and the debtor comes into a happy circumstance where he can pay his bills and that bill has been deleted from the account when he goes to the department to pay $100 or $200 on it, there is nothing to stop the individual from putting the money in his pocket, nothing whatever, and we do not want this kind of operation going on. That is why I ask if there is a control system—so that when that old debt is paid, the money is accounted for in the proper ledger.

Mr. Drury: I think I can give an assurance that it is.

The Chairman: Mr. Thomson.

Mr. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Mr. Chairman, as I understand the intent of this, at present if it is less than $1,000 no one has to report it. If it is over $1,000 Gabriel blows his horn and the Public Accounts Committee looks at it. Is this correct?

Mr. Drury: No, not entirely. Under the present Act, the Treasury Board can prescribe regulations—and has—setting forth the

• 1735

conditions under which for debts less than $1,000 there can be deletion from the accounts. The purpose of this is to bring within this framework debts of $5,000 or less instead of their individually being referred to the Treasury Board.

Mr. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): In this respect, are there that many that you want to raise it to $5,000? Is it a burdensome problem?

[*Interprétation*]

ministères? Si oui, il faudrait peut-être changer cela. Si le système n'est pas en vigueur, je n'accepte pas du tout que l'on élève les chiffres de $1,000 à $5,000.

M. Drury: Il y a très peu de ministères qui ont le pouvoir d'effectuer des ventes.

M. Hales: Tous les ministères vendent quelque chose. Le ministère de l'agriculture vend des produits agricoles, le ministère de la Défense nationale...

M. Drury: Je crois que le ministère de l'Agriculture a ce système de contrôle dont vous parlez.

M. Hales: La raison pour laquelle je pose la question et j'ai toujours soutenu que la personne qui établit un système qui ne fonctionne pas bien est tout aussi coupable que celle qui vole le système, et nous devrions établir ce système partout. Si un compte a été retranché pendant cinq ans et que cette personne se trouve en mesure de payer ses dettes qui ont été retranchées, lorsqu'il se rend au ministère pour payer cent dollars ou deux cents dollars et ne trouve aucun compte payable à son nom, rien ne l'empêche de mettre l'argent dans ses poches. Nous ne voulons pas de ce genre de chose. C'est pourquoi je demande s'il y a un système de contrôle qui permet d'inscrire dans le livre approprié le paiement d'un montant depuis longtemps.

M. Drury: Oui, je pense pouvoir vous assurer de l'existence d'un tel système.

Le président: Monsieur Thomson?

M. Thomson (Battleford Kindersley): Sauf erreur, si la somme est moins de mille dollars, personne n'a besoin d'en faire rapport. Si c'est plus de mille dollars, il faut en faire rapport et le Comité des comptes publics étudie la question. Est-ce exact?

M. Drury: Pas tout à fait juste, non. Selon la loi actuelle, le Conseil du Trésor peut prescrire des règlements, l'a fait, établissant les conditions qui permettent que les dettes de moins de mille dollars soient retranchées des comptes. Cela se fait afin d'amener des dettes de moins de cinq mille dollars sous ce contexte au lieu de les envoyer individuellement au Conseil du Trésor.

M. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Ma question est celle-ci. Y a-t-il tellement de comptes que vous vouliez porter la limite à $5,000? Est-ce que c'est un problème très inquiétant?

[*Text*]

Mr. Drury: I have no statistical information on this.

Mr. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): If there are not that many, why bother? If there are a whole lot, why maybe.

The Chairman: Maybe Mr. Brittain could answer that.

Mr. Drury: Yes, I am glad to say Mr. Brittain has some information here. The Interdepartmental Debts Committee on review of debts in a six-month period in 1968-69 found that for debts of over $100 and less than $1,000 there were 2,042 cases; over $1,000 and less than $5,000, 419 cases; and over $5,000, 147 cases. So that under the present Act, the Treasury Board prescribed regulations under which in the six-month period 2,000 cases were dealt with. With this amendment, if you can project these figures, and perhaps one should not do this too precisely, there would be another 419 cases added to those 2,000. And the Treasury Board will continue to have to deal with 147 cases on an individual basis. That is the order of magnitude of the burden.

The Chairman: Mr. Hales.

Mr. Hales: It is a pretty small number of accounts to be worrying about changing the figure from $1,000 to $5,000. That is just a small business operation.

Mr. Drury: This is just 419 further paper operations that have to go though all the apparatus of Treasury Board approval—the kind of thing we are trying to avoid to the greatest possible extent.

Mr. Hales: In a business the size of Canada, though it is neither here nor there.

Mr. Drury: I am not sure how many man-years this will add to the bill, but this is the effect of it.

Le président: Monsieur Clermont?

M. Clermont: Quand un compte est rayé parce qu'on prévoit qu'il sera impossible d'en percevoir le montant, ce compte est toujours reporté aux comptes publics, que ce soit $100, $150 ou $200.

M. Drury: C'est juste.

M. Clermont: Alors on va continuer à faire la même chose. Si un compte de $1,500, par exemple, est rayé parce que ses possibilités d'être perçu sont plus ou moins nulles, il sera inscrit aux comptes publics. Il sera ainsi sous

[*Interpretation*]

M. Drury: Je n'ai pas de renseignements statistiques à ce sujet.

M. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Mais alors pourquoi vous en préoccuper; s'il y en a si peu? S'il en avait beaucoup, d'accord.

Le président: M. Brittain pourrait peut être répondre.

M. Drury: M. Brittain a des renseignements ici. Le Comité inter-ministériel sur l'étude des dettes? Dans la période a établi que pour une période de 6 mois, pour des dettes de plus de cent dollars et de moins de mille dollars il y avait 2,042 cas; 419 cas de plus de mille et moins de cinq mille, et 149 cas et plus de cinq mille, il y avait 147 cas. Donc selon la Loi actuelle, le Conseil du Trésor a établi des règlements selon lesquels 2,000 cas ont été étudiés en six mois. Si cette augmentation est adoptée et que l'on passe une projection de ces chiffres, pas trop précise, on trouvera encore 419 autres cas à ajouter aux 2,000 cas qui précèdent. Le Conseil du Trésor continuera à traiter 147 cas un à un. C'est là l'importance du problème.

Le président: Monsieur Hales.

M. Hales: Le chiffre est très petit. Il me semble que cela ne nous justifie pas de porter le montant de mille à cinq mille dollars.

M. Drury: Cela ne représente que 419 transactions routinières de plus qui doivent être soumises à la considération du Conseil du Trésor. C'est ce que nous essayons d'éviter dans la mesure du possible.

M. Hales: Dans une entreprise comme le Canada, ce n'est pas ici ou là.

M. Drury: Cela ajoutera je ne sais pas combien d'années-hommes de travail au projet de loi.

The Chairman: Mr. Clermont?

Mr. Clermont: When an account has been written off because you expect that it will be impossible to collect it, this account is always referred to public accounts, whether it be $100, $150 or $200.

Mr. Drury: That's right.

Mr. Clermont: So we will go on doing the same thing. If an account of $1500, for instance, is written off because the likelihood of it being collected in practically nil, it will be entered in the public accounts. Hence, it

[*Texte*]

la surveillance du grand public et des députés de la Chambre des communes.

M. Drury: C'est juste.

Clause 7 agreed to.

On Clause 8.

The Chairman: Mr. Robinson.

Mr. Robinson: I wonder if the Minister could explain this more fully and give us an example and indicate why there is not to be any breakdown.

Mr. Drury: I wonder if I might hear that question again, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. Robinson: First I would like to have the clause explained more fully than in the words that we have here in the explanation section, and as further explanation I would like to have some example of this, and I would like to know the reason for the suggestion that a division of an appropriation or item need not be prepared. Obviously then there would be no breakdown and we would have no indication as to what the money was being referred to.

• 1740

Mr. Drury: This particular clause, Mr. Chairman, provides for an internal breakdown of programs on a fiscal basis within departments to assure rather more detailed control than just a broad general division of the program itself would call for—a greater degree of internal control. Provision is made in here for this division of allotments.

In some cases, as the hon. member has suggested, there will be no necessity for a breakdown of it, and one example of the difficulties of breaking down is under the heading Parliament—Vote 10, allowances to the Speaker of the House, the Deputy Speaker, the Deputy Chairman of Committees and Assistant Deputy Chairman of Committees, $12,500. This is left to the Speaker to administer without the Treasury Board invariably demanding a breakdown of how that particular vote is to be administered.

Mr. Robinson: What is the smallest figure we would allow before we would require a breakdown?

Mr. Drury: I can think of one example. In this particular case there is a provision for $2,000 to cover a minister's motor car allowance. A breakdown is not demanded of that.

[*Interprétation*]

will be under the supervision of the public at large and the members of the House of Commons.

Mr. Drury: That's right.

L'article 7 est-il adopté?

L'article 8.

Le président: Monsieur Robinson.

M. Robinson: Je me demande si le ministre pourrait nous expliquer ceci avec plus de précision, nous donner un exemple et indiquer pourquoi il n'y aurait pas de ventilation?

M. Drury: Je voudrais qu'on pose la question, de nouveau.

M. Robinson: Je voudrais qu'on explique l'article avec plus de détails que ne le fait l'explication et je voudrais que l'on me cite des exemples. Je voudrais savoir pourquoi une division des crédits ou des comptes ne serait pas nécessaire. Il n'y aurait pas de ventilation et l'on ne pourrait identifier l'argent dont on parle.

M. Drury: Cet article en particulier prévoit une ventilation interne des programmes afin d'assurer un contrôle plus détaillé que ne l'exigerait une simple division du programme, un meilleur contrôle interne et il y a une disposition de prise pour ce changement. Dans certains cas, comme l'a signalé l'honorable député, il ne sera pas nécessaire de procéder à une ventilation.

A titre d'exemple des difficultés qu'il y a parfois à procéder à une ventilation, je citerai, au chapitre Parlement, le crédit 10—indemnité à l'Orateur de la Chambre, à l'Orateur suppléant, au vice-président et au vice-président adjoint des comités—$12,500. On laisse à l'Orateur le soin d'administrer ces fonds, sans que le Conseil du Trésor demande automatiquement une ventilation de la manière dont ce crédit va être administré.

M. Robinson: Quel est le chiffre au-dessous duquel on n'a pas à exiger une ventilation?

M. Drury: Je peux vous citer un exemple. Dans ce cas particulier, on a prévu $2,000 d'indemnité d'automobile pour un ministre. On n'exige pas de ventilation dans ce cas-là.

[*Text*]

Mr. Robinson: Perhaps to clarify it further, from time to time there are certain items in the estimates that are merely listed as "Miscellaneous, $80,000", and there is no indication at all to what this refers. I wonder if we are going to make the situation even worse than it is already. There is virtually no breakdown at all and we have no indication how the money is being spent.

Mr. Drury: I think there are two problems to which you are addressing yourself.

One is the provision of information to the public and their representatives, members of Parliament, and the other is a breakdown for purposes of internal control.

In the case of the item you described as "Miscellaneous", it would not be practicable—without increasing the size of the Blue Book to really fantastic proportions—to break this down any further. We have tried to reach a compromise between what should be printed and what should be ascertainable through asking questions.

In respect of internal control, an item labelled "Miscellaneous" would be required by the Treasury Board to be put in divisions where there were differing functions, as many discernable functions as one could achieve. If you take the case of a minister's motor car allowance, which is easy to understand, it is really not practicable to ask for a subdivision of this. However, an item entitled "Miscellaneous" is clearly made up of a number of individual items and there would be a breakdown here for purposes of internal control. There would also be made available by the Department for those who are interested an outline of these divisions or the various classifications under this heading "Miscellaneous".

Mr. Robinson: Could I assume, for instance, that in the case of the Company of Young Canadians there could be just one item that would merely say $2 million and give no breakdown? As I read this section this is exactly what could happen. It is a program and we just say it is $2 million for The Company of Young Canadians, or it might be "Scholarships for Foreign Students, $5 million," and no breakdown.

• 1745

Mr. Drury: In the case of scholarships for foreign students I am not sure that a breakdown would be possible. The only possible breakdown would either be by age groups, colour, country of origin or destination. This

[*Interpretation*]

M. Robinson: Pour préciser davantage, il y a parfois dans le budget des crédits où l'on indique simplement: «divers $80,000», sans préciser du tout à quoi cela se rapporte. Je me demande si nous n'allons pas encore empirer la situation. Il n'y a quasiment pas de ventilation, et nous n'avons aucune indication de la manière dont l'argent est dépensé.

M. Drury: Je crois qu'il y a là deux problèmes en cause.

L'un, c'est de fournir des renseignements au public et à ses représentants, les députés: l'autre, c'est d'avoir une ventilation des crédits pour permettre une vérification interne. Dans le cas du crédit que vous avez décrit comme étant intitulé «divers», il serait impossible de faire une ventilation plus détaillée sans augmenter le volume du Livre bleu jusqu'à des proportions fantastiques. Nous avons essayé de parvenir à un compromis entre ce que l'on doit imprimer et ce que l'on peut établir grâce à des questions.

Dans le cas de la vérification interne, pour un crédit intitulé «divers» le Conseil du Trésor exigerait une ventilation entre les diverses fonctions possibles à distinguer. Dans le cas de l'indemnité d'automobile d'un ministre, qui est facile à comprendre, on peut difficilement demander une ventilation. Mais un crédit intitulé «divers» se compose évidemment d'un certain nombre de postes distincts, et l'on exigerait alors une ventilation aux fins de la vérification interne. Le ministère fournirait aussi aux personnes intéressées un résumé de ces subdivisions ou des diverses classifications comprises dans la rubrique «divers».

M. Robinson: Dois-je supposer que, dans le cas, par exemple, de la Compagnie des jeunes Canadiens, il n'y aurait qu'un crédit, où l'on indiquerait 2 millions de dollars sans donner de ventilation? D'après ce que je comprends de l'article, c'est exactement ce qui pourrait se produire. Il s'agit d'un programme, et l'on indique simplement 2 millions de dollars pour la Compagnie des jeunes Canadiens—ou ce pourrait être «bourses destinées aux étudiants étrangers, 5 millions de dollars»—sans donner de ventilation.

M. Drury: Dans le cas bourses destinées aux étudiants étrangers, je ne suis pas certain qu'il soit possible de faire une ventilation. La seule ventilation possible devrait se faire d'après le groupe d'âge, d'après la couleur, d'a-

[*Texte*]

is not really predictable, if you like, in advance. However, in the case of The Company of Young Canadians there are a number of specific functions which they undertake and a breakdown would be directed of this global vote.

Mr. Robinson: The section does not specifically state there has to be a number of functions. If this is what you mean, then why do we not insert it in the section?

Mr. Drury: In the act they use the term "division", which means a division of an appropriation or an item, and perhaps another term for "function", to use the phraseology of the act is "allotment".

M. Clermont: J'invoque le Règlement, monsieur le président.

Le président: Monsieur Clermont?

M. Clermont: Avez-vous l'intention de continuer jusqu'à six heures? Certains d'entre nous sont ici depuis 3 h. 30. Je crois qu'après 2 heures de séance...

Le président: Il est presque 6 heures...

M. Clermont: Je doute beaucoup qu'on puisse terminer aujourd'hui.

The Chairman: If it is the wish of the Committee we could now adjourn and commence on Thursday morning at 9.30 a.m. with Clause 8. Is this agreeable to the members?

Mr. Alkenbrack: I just have one point, and I will not keep the Committee very long. I want to mention it now because it will be out of order at the next meeting. I am glad the Minister mentioned car allowances. I believe each minister is allowed $2,000 by way of car allowance.

He only used this as an example, but it is certainly in keeping with this proposed Section 29. All members of Parliament whose closest airport in Ottawa is Uplands are allowed a car allowance—small as it is, and it is a very scanty car allowance—for travelling back and forth between the airport and their homes in Ottawa. I believe the ministers receive $2,000 in car allowances. We receive seven cents a mile, which does not even pay the cost of operating the car.

In the past three years I have put 82,000 miles on my car while travelling back and forth between my home and Ottawa and through my constituency and I just want to point out to the Committee the inadequacy of

[*Interprétation*]

près le pays d'origine ou d'après la destination. Cela n'est pas réellement prévisible. Par contre, pour ce qui est de la Compagnie des jeunes Canadiens, elle remplit un certain nombre de fonctions particulières, et l'on exigerait alors une ventilation du crédit global.

M. Robinson: Mais l'article ne dit pas clairement qu'il faut qu'il y ait un certain nombre de fonctions distinctes. Si c'est là ce que vous voulez dire, pourquoi ne pas le préciser dans cet article?

M. Drury: Dans le texte de la loi, on emploie le terme «division», qui désigne une division dans l'appropriation ou un crédit; et un autre terme désignant la fonction est, dans le texte de la loi, «affectation».

Mr. Clermont: On a point of order, Mr. Chairman.

The Chairman: Mr. Clermont?

Mr. Clermont: Do you intend to go on till six o'clock? Some of us are here since 3.30 p.m. I think that after two hours of meeting...

The Chairman: It is almost six o'clock.

Mr. Clermont: I doubt very much that we shall be able to finish today.

Le président: Si le Comité le désire, nous pourrions maintenant lever la séance, et commencer, jeudi matin à 9 h. 30, par l'article 8. Est-ce que vous êtes d'accord, messieurs?

M. Alkenbrack: J'ai juste une observation à faire. Cela ne prendra pas très longtemps. Je veux mentionner cette question maintenant, car elle sera hors du sujet à la prochaine réunion. Je suis heureux que le Ministre ait parlé des indemnités d'automobile. Je crois que chaque ministre a droit à une indemnité d'automobile de $2000.

Le ministre n'a cité cela qu'à titre d'exemple, mais c'est certainement conforme à l'article 29 proposé. Tous les députés dont l'aéroport le plus proche à Ottawa est celui d'Uplands ont droit à une indemnité d'automobile—si petite soit-elle, et elle est minime —pour se déplacer entre l'aéroport et l'endroit où ils logent à Ottawa. Les ministres reçoivent, je pense, $2000 d'indemnité d'automobile. Nous ne recevons que sept cents du mille, ce qui ne paie même pas les frais d'entretien de la voiture.

Au cours des trois dernières années, j'ai fait 82,000 milles avec ma voiture pour me déplacer entre chez moi et Ottawa, et dans ma circonscription, et je veux simplement signaler au Comité l'insuffisance de l'indem-

[*Text*]

the car allowance which is given to private members of Parliament who cannot use the air lines. I hope, as a result of this new act, that if permissible the allotment which was mentioned will be raised to a figure that will not result in such a burden upon members of Parliament who have to use their cars.

The Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Alkenbrack. The meeting is adjourned until Thursday morning at 9.30 a.m. I wish to thank the Minister, the witnesses and the members very much for their attention.

[*Interpretation*]

nité d'automobile accordée aux députés qui ne peuvent voyager par avion. J'espère que, par suite de la nouvelle loi, l'affectation mentionnée va, si possible, être augmentée de manière que la charge financière des députés qui sont forcés d'utiliser leur propre voiture ne soit pas si lourde.

Le président: Merci, monsieur Alkenbrack. La séance est levée. Nous nous réunirons de nouveau jeudi matin à 9 h. 30. Monsieur le ministre, messieurs les témoins, et vous, messieurs du Comité, je vous remercie tous infiniment de votre attention.

OFFICIAL BILINGUAL ISSUE

HOUSE OF COMMONS

First Session

Twenty-eighth Parliament, 1968-69

FASCICULE BILINGUE OFFICIEL

CHAMBRE DES COMMUNES

Première session de la

vingt-huitième législature, 1968-1969

STANDING COMMITTEE

ON

MISCELLANEOUS ESTIMATES

COMITÉ PERMANENT

DES

PRÉVISIONS BUDGÉTAIRES EN GÉNÉRAL

Chairman M. Fernand E. Leblanc

Président

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS AND EVIDENCE

PROCÈS-VERBAUX ET TÉMOIGNAGES

No. 11

THURSDAY, MARCH 13, 1969

LE JEUDI 13 MARS 1969

Respecting

BILL C-178,

An Act to amend the Financial Administration Act

Concernant

BILL C-178,

Loi modifiant la Loi sur l'administration financière

WITNESSES—TÉMOINS

(See Minutes of Proceedings)

(Voir Procès-verbaux)

THE QUEEN'S PRINTER, OTTAWA, 1969
L'IMPRIMEUR DE LA REINE, OTTAWA, 1969

OFFICIAL BILINGUAL ISSUE

HOUSE OF COMMONS

First Session

Twenty-eighth Parliament, 1968-69

FASCICULE BILINGUE OFFICIEL

CHAMBRE DES COMMUNES

Première session de la

vingt-huitième législature, 1968-1969

STANDING COMMITTEE ON

MISCELLANEOUS ESTIMATES

COMITÉ PERMANENT DES

PRÉVISIONS BUDGÉTAIRES EN GÉNÉRAL

Chairman M. Fernand E. Leblanc *Président*

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS AND EVIDENCE

PROCÈS-VERBAUX ET TÉMOIGNAGES

No. 11

THURSDAY, MARCH 13, 1969

LE JEUDI 13 MARS 1969

Respecting

BILL C-172,

An Act to amend the Financial Administration Act.

Concernant

BILL C-172,

Loi modifiant la Loi sur l'administration financière.

WITNESSES—TÉMOINS

(See Minutes of Proceedings)

(Voir Procès-verbaux)

THE QUEEN'S PRINTER, OTTAWA, 1969
L'IMPRIMEUR DE LA REINE, OTTAWA, 1969

29986—1

STANDING COMMITTEE
ON
MISCELLANEOUS ESTIMATES

COMITÉ PERMANENT
DES
PRÉVISIONS BUDGÉTAIRES
EN GÉNÉRAL

Chairman: M. Fernand-E. Leblanc *Président.*
Vice-Chairman: M. Aurélien Noël *Vice-président.*

and Messrs. et MM.

Alkenbrack,
Clermont,
Crossman,
Goode,
Guay (*Lévis*),
Guilbault,
Gundlock,
Lambert (*Edmonton-Ouest*),
LeBlanc (*Rimouski*),
McCutcheon,
Nystrom,
[1] Paproski,
Peddle,
Robinson,
Rochon,
Rodrigue,
Roy (*Timmins*),
Thomson (*Battleford-Kindersley*)—20.

Le secrétaire du Comité,

D. E. Levesque

Clerk of the Committee.

Pursuant to S.O. 65(4)(b)

Conformément à l'article 65 (4)(b) du Règlement

[1] Mr. Hales replaced Mr. Paproski on March 12, 1969.

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

(*Text*)

THURSDAY, March 13, 1969.
(12)

The Standing Committee on Miscellaneous Estimates met this day at 9.45 a.m., the Chairman, Mr. Fernand Leblanc, presiding.

Members present: Messrs. Clermont, Crossman, Goode, Gundlock, Hales, Lambert (*Edmonton West*), Leblanc (*Laurier*), McCutcheon, Nystrom, Robinson, Rochon, Thomson (*Battleford-Kindersley*) (12).

Witnesses: From the Treasury Board: Mr. W. B. Brittain, Acting Assistant Secretary and Mr. H. Calof, Treasury Solicitor.

The Committee resumed consideration of Clause 8 of Bill C-172, An Act to amend the Financial Administration Act.

Clauses 8 to 12 both inclusive were carried.

At the request of Messrs. Robinson and Hales, Clause 13 was allowed to stand pending the appearance of a solicitor.

Mr. Calof, Treasury Solicitor, was called and testified on Clause 13.

Clauses 13 to 21 were severally examined and allowed to stand.

At 11.50 a.m., the Committee adjourned to the call of the Chair.

PROCÈS-VERBAL

(*Traduction*)

Le JEUDI 13 mars 1969.
(12)

Le Comité permanent des prévisions budgétaires en général se réunit ce matin à 9 h. 45, sous la présidence de M. Fernand Leblanc.

Présents: MM. Clermont, Crossman, Goode, Gundlock, Hales, Lambert (*Edmonton West*), Leblanc (*Laurier*), McCutcheon, Nystrom, Robinson, Rochon, Thomson (*Battleford-Kindersley*)—(12).

Témoins: Du Conseil du Trésor: M. W. B. Brittain, secrétaire adjoint suppléant, et M. H. Calof, solliciteur du Trésor.

Le Comité reprend l'examen de l'article 8 du Bill C-172, Loi modifiant la Loi sur l'administration financière.

Les articles 8 à 12 les deux y inclus sont adoptés.

A la demande de M. Robinson et de M. Hales, l'article 13 est réservé en attendant la comparution d'un solliciteur.

M. Calof, solliciteur du Trésor, est convoqué et témoigne sur l'article 13.

Les articles 13 à 21 sont examinés séparément et réservés.

A 11 h. 50 du matin, le Comité s'ajourne jusqu'à nouvelle convocation du président.

Le secrétaire du Comité,
D. E. Levesque,
Clerk of the Committee.

29986—1½

• 0945

Thursday, March 13, 1969

[*Texte*]

The Chairman: Gentlemen, when we adjourned we were on Clause 8 and a discussion was going on. The Minister was with us as well as Mr. Brittain and Mr. Eric Jay. The Minister cannot be here this morning because of a Cabinet sitting, so we have Mr. Bruce Brittain who is Acting Assistant Secretary and Mr. Eric Jay, Financial Management Adviser, both from the Management Improvement Branch of the Treasury Board.

Mr. Hales, I believe you were asking some questions when we adjourned.

Mr. Hales: I think it was Mr. Robinson who was asking this question on Clause 8. His question was with respect to the division of appropriations, and we wanted the word "division" explained, and was it going to be possible to make the changes that are not now possible?

Mr. B. Brittain (Acting Assistant Secretary, Management Improvement Branch, Treasury Board): Mr. Chairman, I believe the Minister was in the process of explaining that we were talking about the division of an appropriation into allotments, that this is a division which takes place within a department. It has no effect on the form or appearance of the Estimates. Within some appropriations the division is impossible or impractical; in fact, some are indivisible.

Yesterday, I believe Mr. Drury gave as an example the case of the appropriation authorizing a $3,000 allowance to the Speaker of the Senate in lieu of residence. According to the wording of the Act as it now stands, it is required that a department divide that allotment and that the Treasury Board approve that division, and that the department be held to the division of that appropriation unless they appeal to the Board for some change.

Another example that was given was parlaimentary Vote 10, allowances to the Speaker of the House, the Deputy Speaker and the Deputy Chairman of Committees, $12,500. The Treasury Board is of the view that this does not call for a division within the department. The department should not be controlled on division of this appropriation and therefore Treasury Board would not require the depart-

Le mardi 13 mars 1969

[*Interprétation*]

Le président: Messieurs, lorsque nous avons levé la séance la dernière fois, nous en étions à l'article 8. La discussion portait sur cet article. Le ministre siégeait avec nous; il y avait M. Brittain et M. Eric Jay. Le ministre ne peut malheureusement pas venir ce matin, parce que le Cabinet siège en ce moment; nous avons avec nous M. Bruce Brittain, qui est secrétaire adjoint suppléant, et M. Eric Jay, conseiller en gestion financière, les deux de la Direction des réformes administratives du Conseil du Trésor.

Monsieur Hales, je crois que vous posiez des questions au moment de l'ajournement?

M. Hales: C'était M. Robinson, je crois, qui avait posé la question suivante au sujet de l'article 8: il s'agissait notamment de la division des affectations. Nous voulions qu'on nous explique le terme «division», et s'il était possible de faire des changements qui ne sont pas possibles maintenant?

M. Bruce Brittain (Secrétaire adjoint suppléant, Direction des réformes administratives, Conseil du Trésor): Monsieur le président, je crois que le ministre était en train de parler de la répartition des budgets.

Il s'agit d'une division qui est opérée au sein du ministère et qui n'a aucun effet sur l'aspect ou la présentation des crédits. Pour certains crédits, cette division est impossible et impraticable, en fait, certains crédits ne peuvent être divisés et je crois que, hier, M. Drury nous a donné comme exemple le cas de crédits autorisant une allocation de $3,000 au Président du Sénat au lieu de la résidence.

D'après la loi actuelle, le ministère doit diviser cette allocation et le Conseil du Trésor doit approuver cette répartition, et le ministère doit s'en tenir à la division de ce crédit à moins qu'il n'y ait appel au Conseil pour un changement.

Un autre exemple qui a été donné était le crédit numéro 10: Allocation à l'Orateur de la Chambre, à son adjoint, aux présidents adjoints des comités, de $12,500. Le Conseil du Trésor estime, pour sa part, que cela n'entraîne pas une répartition à l'intérieur du ministère. Le ministère ne devrait pas être contrôlé au sujet de la répartition et par conséquent, le Conseil du Trésor n'exigerait pas

[*Text*]

ment to subdivide that appropriation into allotments and control on that basis.

Mr. Hales: In the Estimates, for instance, we might have a vote for wages in a department. Would this not mean, if this is passed, that it is not necessary to break that down into the various categories of people and so on?

Mr. Brittain: No, there would be no change as far as the Estimates are concerned, Mr. Hales. There would be no change in the form of the Estimates, which as you know are presented to you with a certain breakdown. There can be many further breakdowns within the allotment shown for a program within the department. This is the means by which Treasury Board exercises its more definitive and complete control, where this is required.

• 0950

Mr. Hales: The way I read this, a vote would not have to be divided down, or any divisions of appropriations need not be prepared. I do not see but would this be possible, that you could have a vote for wages or any other item and it would not be necessary to break it down into its component uses. Is that not what this means?

Mr. Brittain: It means that where a division is not required at present Treasury Board would have the power to waive the divisions of an appropriation into allotments where this is not required or where control can be exercised in a more appropriate way; for example, in the case of the Crown corporations, where they present a budget.

Mr. Hales: Why not have in there "a division where not now required" as you just finished saying?

Mr. Brittain: I think it would be very difficult to define "where not now required" because this would cover a host of situations.

Mr. McCutcheon: May I ask a supplementary?

The Chairman: Mr. McCutcheon.

Mr. McCutcheon: You use the word "division". Would you describe to me, so that I might get abreast of this, in what context we are using this word "division"?

Mr. Brittain: In its normal context, sir. We speak of a division of an appropriation into

[*Interpretation*]

du ministère de subdiviser et d'exercer un contrôle.

M. Hales: Par exemple, dans le budget des dépenses, nous pouvons avoir un crédit au sujet des salaires d'un ministère. Est-ce que cela ne signifierait pas, une fois adopté, qu'il n'est pas nécessaire de le ventiler en diverses catégories d'employés?

M. Brittain: Non, il n'y aura pas de changement en ce qui concerne les crédits, M. Hales. Il y aura aucun changement dans la forme des crédits, qui comme vous le savez, vous sont présentés sous forme d'une certaine ventilation; il peut y avoir évidemment plusieurs ventilations plus détaillées de ces affectations intéressant les programmes à l'intérieur des ministères. C'est de cette façon que le Conseil du Trésor exerce un contrôle plus définitif et plus complet s'il y a lieu.

M. Hales: Si j'ai bien compris cette disposition, le crédit n'est pas nécessairement réparti ou il n'y a pas nécessairement division des affectations.

Sera-t-il possible d'avoir un crédit correspondant aux salaires ou n'importe quel autre poste, et il ne serait-il pas nécessaire de le ventiler selon des éléments voulus. Est-ce que c'est bien la signification de cette disposition?

M. Brittain: Cela veut dire que lorsqu'une répartition ne s'impose pas à l'heure actuelle, le Conseil du Trésor aurait le pouvoir de ne pas répartir un crédit si ce n'est pas nécessaire ou si l'on peut exercer un contrôle d'une façon plus appropriée, par exemple, dans le cas des sociétés de la Couronne lorsqu'elle présentent un budget.

M. Hales: Alors, pourquoi ne pas écrire «une répartition qui n'est pas nécessaire à l'heure actuelle» comme vous venez de le dire.

M. Brittain: J'ai l'impression qu'il serait très difficile de définir exactement ce «qui n'est pas nécessaire à l'heure actuelle», car cela couvrirait tout un ensemble de situations.

M. McCutcheon: Puis-je poser une question supplémentaire?

Le président: Monsieur McCutcheon.

M. McCutcheon: Vous avez parlé du terme «division». Pourriez-vous m'expliquer, pour que je puisse suivre dans quel contexte utilisons-nous le mot division?

M. Brittain: Dans son contexte normal, monsieur. Nous parlons d'une division des

[*Texte*]

allotments. We are talking about the control of this breakdown. In many situations an appropriation will be broken down by geographic regions perhaps, or in some other way, but where this is clearly not required—and I mentioned a couple of examples such as the $3,000 allowance to the Speaker—no division is possible.

Mr. McCutcheon: Now, your reference to allotments. In what context is that? Is this periodical, monthly, biannual or...

Mr. Brittain: It is annual. Once a year following approval of the estimates the departments, in consultation with the Treasury Board, will come forward with a division of their appropriations for approval. For example, a large sum of money may be voted for construction and they will break that up into packages which have some meaning. The departments are then held by the Treasury Board to those amounts in their spending throughout the year; they cannot exceed them without Treasury Board authority.

Mr. McCutcheon: Providing they do not exceed the allotment does this clause permit them to transfer these funds around from one subdepartment to another at will?

Mr. Brittain: No, if I understand your question correctly.

Mr. McCutcheon: Well, if I understand.

The Chairman: Do you mind if I carry on with a supplementary, Mr. McCutcheon?

Mr. McCutcheon: I wish you would.

The Chairman: Suppose, for instance, we have an estimate of $10 million for Public Works buildings—one building for $3 million in Hull, another building for $5 million in Ottawa and one in Montreal for $2 million. Then the Department might turn around and say, "We are not building that building in Montreal now, but we will have another building in Ottawa". Would that be feasible?

Mr. Brittain: No. The whole purpose of allotment control, of course, is to hold the spending to the purpose for which it was intended. Therefore, under these circumstances that you mention, Mr. Chairman, the answer is no.

The Chairman: If it was in the same vote, though?

• 0955

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): As an illustration—I think this will be a much clearer

[*Interprétation*]

affectations en crédits. Il s'agit d'un contrôle de cette ventilation.

Dans bon nombre de cas, une affectation peut être répartie par régions géographiques, peut-être ou selon d'autres formules. Mais, j'ai donné quelques exemples où cela n'est pas nécessaire comme l'allocation de $3000 au président du Sénat, dans ce cas là aucune division n'est possible.

M. McCutcheon: Vous parlez des crédits dans quel contexte? Est-ce à intervalles réguliers, mensuel, bi-annuel, ou bien ...

M. Brittain: Il s'agit de crédits annuels. Une fois par année sous forme d'approbation des crédits, les ministères en consultation avec le Conseil du Trésor, présenteront une répartition et leurs affectations à l'approbation. Par exemple, une somme considérable consacrée à la construction peut être accordée et ventilée en parties assez importantes. Et, le Conseil du Trésor oblige les ministères à s'en tenir à ces montants pour leurs dépenses annuelles. Ils ne peuvent les dépasser sans approbation du Conseil du Trésor.

M. McCutcheon: Pourvu qu'ils ne dépassent pas ces affectations, est-ce que cet article leur permet alors, de transférer ces fonds d'une direction à une autre à volonté.

M. Brittain: Si j'ai bien compris votre question, non.

M. McCutcheon: Si je comprends bien.

Le président: Me permettez-vous de continuer par une question supplémentaire?

M. McCutcheon: Oui, bien sûr.

Le président: Admettons que nous ayons un crédit de $10 millions pour des immeubles des Travaux publics. Un immeuble de $3 millions à Hull, un autre de $5 millions à Ottawa et un autre immeuble à Montréal de $2 millions. Alors, le ministère dirait: nous n'allons pas construire cet immeuble à Montréal, mais nous aurons un autre immeuble à Ottawa. Est-ce que cela serait praticable.

M. Brittain: Non. Toute la question du contrôle des affectations est, bien sûr, de restreindre les dépenses aux fins prévues. Par conséquent, monsieur le président, dans ces conditions que vous m'avez mentionnées, la réponse est non.

M. McCutcheon: Si c'était avec les fonds disponibles?

M. Lambert (Edmonton-Ouest): Je crois que ce serait là un exemple beaucoup plus clair. Il

[*Text*]

illustration. In the final sups there was a transfer of unexpended moneys in a vote that had to do with the construction of three national parks in the Atlantic Provinces. Now there was a short-fall in expenditure there, but the heading of the vote had to do with three national parks. Where do we come about with divisions and allotments with regard to those three national parks? This, I think, is a clear example.

Mr. Brittain: Right.

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): How could you play around, if at all, within those three national parks? The money are there, Parliament has voted the moneys, but let us assume that half way through the year they decide that there should be some changes in park A which are going to cost more and that they can get the money by either slowing up or withdrawing some construction from park B. Is this possible without going to Treasury Board and making a submission that the division or the allotment—I do not know whether the terms are interchangeable here—is feasible within the authority of the Parks Branch of the Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development?

Mr. Brittain: No, sir. May I say that the division is used as a verb in this case; it is a breakdown of the appropriation. This is the control that is placed on the department by the Treasury Board. It is a control that takes place, if I may use the expression, below the level of parliamentary control; there is a further control of votes beyond the parliamentary control which rests with the Treasury Board. Now what we are talking about here is not so much the power of transfer but it is the power to waive this division for the purpose of this internal control.

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): But, Mr. Chairman, this is precisely the point that we are at. We are now introducing an element of discretion to the Treasury Board here, which it did not have before.

Mr. Brittain: Oh, yes.

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): When I look at the amendment and it says "unless otherwise directed by the Board", as it appears on line 22 on page 5, this is an amending phrase which does not exist in...

The Chairman: That is Clause 29(1)?

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): That is right. It does not exist...

[*Interpretation*]

y avait un transfert d'affectations indépensées dans un vote concernant la construction de trois parcs nationaux dans les provinces de l'Atlantique. Il y avait un manque de dépenses mais le poste des affectations était les trois parcs nationaux, par exemple. Que fera-t-on avec les divisions ou les affectations concernant les trois parcs nationaux? C'est un exemple assez clair.

M. Brittain: C'est juste.

M. Lambert (Edmonton-Ouest): Comment pourrait-on faire avec ces trois parcs nationaux? Des fonds sont disponibles, ont été votés par le Parlement, mais supposons qu'au milieu de l'année ils décident qu'il devrait y avoir des changements dans le parc «A» qui coûteront plus cher. Est-ce qu'on ralentirait ou supprimerait des fonds pour la construction du parc «B». Est-ce que cela est possible sans s'adresser du nouveau au Conseil du Trésor, pour demander si la division ou les affectations, je ne sais si les termes sont interchangeables ici, sont faisables avec l'autorisationde la Division des parcs du ministère des Affaires indiennes et du nord canadien?

M. Brittain: Non, Monsieur, puis-je dire que, dans ce cas-ci, il s'agit d'une ventilation des affectations. C'est cette forme de contrôle qui est imposée au ministère par le Conseil du Trésor. C'est un contrôle qui s'exerce—pour ainsi dire au-dessous du niveau du contrôle parlementaire il y a un autre contrôle des crédits au-dessus du contrôle parlementaire et qui incombe au Conseil du Trésor.

De ce que nous parlons ici, ce n'est pas le pouvoir de transférer, mais plutôt le pouvoir de supprimer cette division aux fins d'un contrôle interne.

M. Lambert (Edmonton-Ouest): Mais, monsieur le président, c'est précisément le point dont nous parlons. Nous présentons maintenant la question de discrétion au Conseil du Trésor qu'il n'y avait pas auparavant.

M. Brittain: Mais, oui.

M. Lambert (Edmonton-Ouest): Si je jette un coup d'œil sur la modification je vois: à moins que le Conseil n'en ordonne autrement. C'est en toutes lettres à la page 5. C'est là une expression modificatrice qui n'existait pas auparavant.

Le président: Il s'agit du paragraphe 1, de l'article 29, n'est-ce pas?

M. Lambert (Edmonton-Ouest): C'est juste.

[*Texte*]

The Chairman: And it is underlined, "unless otherwise directed by the Board".

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): That is right. And it does not appear in Section 29 of the Consolidated Revenue and Audit Financial Administration Act which is presently current and in force. Therefore it seems to me, as I think you indicated in your explanation, that it does authorize some situations in which a division or allotment is meaningless because there is a limited amount and there is only one purpose and it cannot be divided. If this is in the Act, certainly it could give Treasury Board authority under appropriate circumstances to indicate to the department that it shall not be necessary for it to subdivide.

Mr. Brittain: This provision does not give, as I read it, any type of authority as you have in mind, Mr. Lambert. It is as much to regularize many of the current practices where the Act requires a division and division is patently impossible.

For example there are a number of votes that are not broken down now for control purposes which should be broken down according to Section 29 as it now stands, and I will go back again to the example that I used of parliamentary legislation, item I, which is the $3,000 allowance to the Speaker.

Le président: Monsieur Clermont a une question qui, peut-être, va éclaircir...

M. Clermont: Je ne dis pas que ma question va éclaircir la situation, monsieur le président, mais elle va au moins m'éclairer moi.

Monsieur le président, à l'article 8, je crois, on traite des articles 29 et 30 de ladite loi. Si je comprends bien, l'article 29 donnerait au sous-chef l'autorité de préparer certains crédits, et l'article 30 lui permettrait d'en avoir la surveillance au lieu que la surveillance de la préparation soit confiée au conseil du Trésor. Ai-je raison?

Dans les notes explicatives, monsieur le président je lis:

> *Article 8 du bill:* Cette modification porterait revision de l'article 29 en vue d'autoriser le conseil du Trésor à prescrire qu'une division d'un crédit ou d'un poste n'a pas besoin d'être préparée; elle aurait pour effet de prévoir que lorsqu'une telle division est préparée, cette dernière doit être soumise au conseil du Trésor par le sous-chef compétent ou autre personne compétente et d'investir ce sous-chef ou autre personne de la res-

[*Interprétation*]

Le président: A la ligne 23 de la version française, et c'est souligné.

M. Lambert (Edmonton-Ouest): Et, cela ne figurait pas dans l'article 29 de la *Loi sur le revenu consolidé et de la vérification financière* qui est actuellement en vigueur. Par conséquent, il me semble que, comme vous le dites dans votre note explicative, que cela autorise maintenant certains cas, où une division ou bien des affectations sont inutiles, parce qu'il s'agit de montants limités destinés à un certain but et ne peuvent être repartis. Mais, si cette expression figure en toutes lettres dans la Loi, sûrement, cela pourrait donner au Conseil du Trésor, le pouvoir, dans des circonstances appropriées, d'indiquer à un ministère qu'il ne sera pas nécessaire de subdiviser.

M. Brittain: Cette disposition ne donne pas le genre d'autorité à laquelle vous songez, monsieur Lambert. C'est plutôt pour régulariser la pratique actuelle lorsque la loi exige une division et que cette division est tout à fait impossible.

Il y a un certain nombre de crédits, par exemple, qui ne sont pas ventilés à l'heure actuelle aux fins du contrôle et qui devraient être ventilés, d'après l'article 29 dans le contexte actuel. Je reviendrai à l'exemple que j'ai cité plutôt, notamment du crédit n° 1 sur le service législatif parlementaire, représentant $3,000 à l'Orateur.

The Chairman: Mr. Clermont has a question that might perhaps clarify ...

Mr. Clermont: I am not saying that my question will clarify the situation, but it will at least enlighten myself.

Mr. Chairman, Clause 8 bears on Sections 29 and 30 of the said Act. If I understand correctly, Clause 29 would authorize the Deputy Head to prepare certain appropriations and Clause 30 would allow him to control them instead of having the control over preparation entrusted to the Treasury Board. Am I right?

In the explanatory notes, I read:

> Clause 8: This amendment would revise section 29 to authorize the Treasury Board to direct that a division of an appropriation or item need not be prepared, to provide that where such a division is prepared, it is to be submitted to the Treasury Board by the appropriate deputy head or other person and to place on that deputy head or other person the responsibility for ensuring that allotments provided in a division are not exceeded.

[*Text*]

ponsabilité de veiller à ce que les affectations afférentes à une division ne soient pas dépassées.

• 1000

En un mot, est-ce que l'article 29 de la Loi, tel que revisé, donnerait au sous-chef la responsabilité de voir à ce que le crédit ne soit pas dépassé, au lieu de laisser cette surveillance au conseil du Trésor?

Mr. Brittain: Yes, that is correct, Mr. Chairman. There are several objects of this amendment. The first is to provide for responsibility for appropriation allotment control to be assumed by departments as part of the transfer of the responsibility for commitment control and pre-audit to departments from the Comptroller as we discussed on Tuesday.

The second object is to require the departments to establish adequate systems of internal control and audit to ensure that expenditures do not result in any over-expenditure of allotment and, therefore, appropriations.

The third object is to empower the Treasury Board to waive the division of an appropriation into allotments where control of expenditures can be more effectively achieved by some other means, or where an appropriation is incapable of division. There are those three purposes to be served by this proposed amendment.

M. Clermont: Et l'article 30 donnerait à ce sous-chef le pouvoir d'émettre des certificats? Dans cet article 30, on prévoit un paragraphe 5 qui

autoriserait la conclusion de contrats ou autres arrangements intéressant des dépenses dans l'année financière courante lorsque le Parlement n'est pas en session.

Mr. Brittain: That is correct, Mr. Chairman.

M. Clermont: Merci, monsieur le président.

The Chairman: Mr. Lambert?

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): Mr. Chairman, where would this leave responsibility for the over-expenditure of any particular allotment? Somewhere along the line somebody's head must be, shall we say, available in the event there is an over-expenditure, either willingly or unwillingly. Does this take it away from within Treasury Board and place it within the department concerned, or who is going to be responsible—what deputy minister, what minister?

[*Interpretation*]

In other words, would section 29 as amended, give the Deputy Head the responsibility of seeing that the appropriations are not exceeded, instead of leaving this control within the hands of the Treasury Board?

M. Brittain: Oui, c'est exact, monsieur le président. Il y a plusieurs objectifs dans cet amendement. Tout d'abord on veut assurer que le contrôle des affectations soit assumé par les ministères comme une partie du transfert de la responsabilité du contrôleur du contrôle et à une vérification préalable des ministères dont nous avons parlé mardi. Ce deuxième objectif est qu'il faut obliger le ministère à établir des moyens de comptabilité ou de surveillance pour assurer qu'on ne dépasse pas les affectations et par conséquent, les crédits. Le troisième objectif est d'autoriser le conseil du Trésor à rendre facultative la division des affectations des crédits lorsque le contrôle des dépenses peut être mieux réalisé par d'autres moyens ou lorsque le crédit est réfractaire à la division. Ces amendements doivent répondre à ces trois objectifs.

Mr. Clermont: And section 30 would authorize the Deputy Head to issue certificates? Subsection (5) of Section 30 would:

authorize the making of contracts or other arrangements that involve expenditures in the current fiscal year when Parliament is not in session.

M. Brittain: C'est exact, monsieur le président.

Mr. Clermont: Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman.

M. le président: M. Lambert.

M. Lambert (Edmonton-Ouest): Monsieur le président, qu'est-ce qui en devient de la responsabilité des dépenses excessives pour une affectation particulière? Il faut qu'une personne s'en charge au cas où il y aurait des dépenses excessives, soit volontairement, soit involontairement. Est-ce que la responsabilité est enlevée du Conseil du Trésor et confiée au ministère en cause, ou bien qui est-ce qui en sera chargé, quel sous-ministre, quel ministre?

[*Texte*]

Mr. Brittain: Mr. Chairman, if I understand correctly, this goes back to the discussion yesterday on the transfer of the pre-audit and commitment control from the Comptroller of the Treasury to departments, and very clearly the intent of this Bill is that this responsibility will henceforth be vested in departments and not under control of the Treasury.

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): What was the purpose of the change?

• 1005

Mr. Brittain: This is one of many changes which had its root, I suppose we could say, in the Glassco Commission report, wherein the Glassco Commissioners noted the high degree of duplication of effort between central agencies and departments.

They noted the very great need for strengthening financial management in departments; they also noted that the duplication that existed at that time between the Comptroller and the departments was not in itself effective in many cases, that the duplication did not contribute to the function, and they recommended that departments be so organized that they could effectively manage their financial affairs.

They also recommended that as the officials in departments were much more aware of what led up to an expenditure, they were in a far better position to do an audit of any accounts which might result from an expenditure, and they should be charged with the responsibility for the audit, subject to there being effective internal control within departments.

That last report was published in 1964. It started in 1962 and since that time the government has devoted very, very considerable resources to acquiring senior financial executives, most of whom had to be brought in from the outside and I think almost without exception every department now has, and has had for some time, this type of financial officer. A great amount of resources have gone into training the staff in departments to meet the needs of progressive financial management systems.

Systems have been designed. Internal controls have been in place for some time. Indeed, much of the work that we are talking about now was duplicated, as I said earlier, at the time the Glassco Commission arrived on the scene, but during the years between the publication of the Glassco Commission

[*Interprétation*]

M. Brittain: Si j'ai bien compris la question, monsieur le président, on revient à la question dont on parlait hier du transfert des comptes vérifiés au préalable qui passent du contrôle du Conseil du Trésor au contrôle des ministères et c'est précisément l'objectif du bill, que cette responsabilité de vérification préalable incombera maintenant au ministère plutôt qu'au Conseil du Trésor.

M. Lambert (Edmonton-Ouest): Et quel est le but de ce changement?

M. Brittain: C'est l'un des nombreux changements qui émanent des recommandations de la Commission Glassco dont les membres ont constaté qu'il y avait beaucoup de chevauchement entre les organismes centraux et l'administration centrale au sein des ministères.

Ils se sont rendus compte de la nécessité de consolider la gestion financière au sein des ministères. On a aussi constaté que les doubles emplois existant alors entre le contrôleur et les ministères n'étaient pas efficaces dans bien des cas. Le double emploi n'améliorait pas le fonctionnement et ils recommandaient que les ministères soient organisés de telle façon qu'ils puissent gérer leurs propres affaires financières de façon efficace.

La Commission Glassco a aussi recommandé que les fonctionnaires seraient beaucoup plus au courant des éléments d'une dépense et qu'ils seraient en meilleure position de vérifier les comptes résultant de cette dépense et qu'on devrait leur confier la responsabilité de la vérification pourvu qu'il y ait une forme de contrôle efficace au sein du ministère. Le dernier rapport a été publié en 1964. La première tranche a été publiée en 1962. Depuis ce moment, le gouvernement a consacré des ressources importantes en vue de recruter des hauts fonctionnaires spécialisés en matière des finances dont la plupart ont été engagés de l'extérieur. Je crois que sans exception maintenant, tous les ministères ont et ont eu ce genre de hauts fonctionnaires spécialisés en matière des finances. Beaucoup de ressources ont été consacrées à la formation du personnel dans les ministères afin de faire face aux besoins des ministères afin de faire face aux besoins des systèmes progressistes de l'administration financière.

Des systèmes ont été conçus, des formules de réglementation interne ont été appliquées depuis quelque temps. De fait, une bonne part du travail dont nous parlons maintenant faisait l'objet d'un double emploi jusqu'au moment de la commission Glassco mais au cours des années, entre la publication du

[*Text*]

report and the present time, departments have been working to put themselves in the position where they can assume the responsibilities that were recommended by the Glassco Commission. The Glassco Commission, as you know, very clearly recommended that this responsibility be placed on departments subject, as I said, to effective internal control systems in departments.

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): I have one further question. Has this resulted in erecting perhaps 24 financial control sections in various departments with additional personnel, while the personnel that formerly did this at the Comptroller of the Treasury are still functioning for some reason or other? Has this been just a blow-up of staff?

Mr. Brittain: It is a question I would have to break down into a couple of parts, Mr. Chairman. First of all, it certainly has meant an increase of financial management staffs in departments because in the days prior to the Glassco Commission financial management in government was of a certain character and it was not at all, in many respects and in many instances, in harmony with progressive financial management practices.

This meant bringing into departments people who were competent in the field of financial management and, as I said, in many, many cases the senior financial officers of the departments were hired from the private sector. Certainly there has been a build-up, but this has been a build-up that was necessary for internal financial management purposes of departments, regardless of pre-audit and commitment control that was necessary. There was duplication of the pre-audit function to some extent before the time of the Royal Commission on Government Organization, and as a result of this build-up the duplication has grown and continues to grow.

With respect to the second part of your question, which I believe was aimed at the amount of duplication that has existed, this duplication existed prior to the Glassco Commission and it has grown ever since.

• 1010

Mr. Hales: I think it is safe to say that there is much greater responsibility on the audit section of each department. The final responsibility rests with the Deputy Minister and he, having approved it, passes it on to Treasury Board for approval and payment.

In between there we are taking out one person—the Comptroller—who used to accept

[*Interpretation*]

Rapport Glassco et maintenant, les ministères ont essayé d'arriver au point où ils sont en mesure d'assumer les responsabilités pronostiquées par la commission Glassco. La commission Glassco, comme vous le savez, recommandait que cette responsabilité soit confiée aux ministères moyennant des systèmes efficaces de contrôle au sein des ministères.

M. Lambert (Edmonton-Ouest): Je voudrais poser une question supplémentaire. Est-ce que le résultat a été d'établir 24 divisions de contrôle financier dans divers ministères avec un personnel supplémentaire tandis que le personnel qui s'en occupait auparavant au Conseil du Trésor pour une raison ou une autre existe encore?

Est-ce que ce n'était qu'une expansion du personnel?

M. Brittain: Oui, il faudrait que je réponde à cette question sous plusieurs sous-titres, monsieur le président. Premièrement, il y a eu une augmentation du personnel de gestion financière dans divers ministères parce que avant l'existence de la Commission Glassco, la gestion financière du gouvernement n'était pas de concert, sous bien des aspects, avec les pratiques modernes de la gestion financière.

Cela a entraîné un recrutement de fonctionnaires spécialisés dans le domaine financier dans divers ministères. On a engagé des spécialistes du domaine financier en provenance du secteur privé. Il y avait bien sûr une augmentation mais qui était nécessaire en vue de mieux organiser la gestion financière des différents ministères sans tenir compte de la nécessité d'une vérification préalable et d'un contrôle. Il y a eu un double emploi dans une certaine mesure en ce qui concerne la vérification préalable avant la Commission royale sur l'organisation du gouvernement. Par conséquent, le chevauchement s'est multiplié et continue à se multiplier. Quant à la deuxième partie de la question qui, je crois, avait trait à la quantité du chevauchement, ce chevauchement existait avant la Commission Glassco, et a continué d'augmenter.

M. Hales: On peut dire, je pense, en toute justice qu'il y a une plus grande responsabilité dans la section de vérification de chaque ministère. Mais c'est le sous-ministre qui en a le dernier contrôle. Après l'avoir approuvé, il présente les comptes au Conseil du Trésor à l'approbation et au paiement.

Entre ces deux démarches, nous éliminons une personne, c'est-à-dire le contrôleur qui

[*Texte*]

or reject these items submitted for payment. Now he has gone and one stop block is out of there. So this will mean—and I cannot help thinking of this, having worked so much with the Auditor General in Public Accounts—that he is going to have much greater responsibility than he had in the past. I would think that he will have to sort of fit in between there some place, and there is bound to be more responsibility on him.

Mr. Brittain: Sir, if what I believe to be true is a fact—that is, if there are effective internal financial control systems in departments—then I could not agree with that statement. Of course the Auditor General has his staff not centralized but located in departments, and that will not change. I am not trying to put words in his month but I presume that he would be particularly concerned with the effectiveness of the internal financial control systems in a department, and to the extent that they are satisfactory this would represent no additional workload for him.

The Chairman: This is audit after the tax whereas they are trying to get a procedure of audits before the tax.

Mr. Hales: I cannot help wondering why we should not have the Auditor General in here as a witness. I think he could have been of great help to us along certain lines.

Perhaps it might be an idea to have him here at another meeting. We might be able to put some questions to him. However, that is up to the Chairman.

M. Clermont: Monsieur le président, n'est-ce pas la responsabilité du gouvernement de préparer la législation et celle de l'Auditeur général de voir à ce que les dépenses suivent l'esprit des lois? Selon moi, ce n'est pas à l'Auditeur général de préparer les lois du gouvernement?

Le président: Nous ne pouvons répondre à la place de l'Auditeur général, mais...

M. Clermont: Non, mais je crois que c'est la responsabilité du gouvernement de préparer sa législation et de voter les crédits nécessaires à l'administration du pays et non celle de l'Auditeur général. Vous êtes comptable agréé, monsieur le président, et comme vérificateur, vous avez la responsabilité de vérifier les livres et non de dire comment dépenser. Ce n'est qu'un commentaire, mais je crois que ce n'est pas la responsabilité de l'Auditeur général de venir nous dire si la Loi est bonne ou non.

[*Interprétation*]

jusqu'alors était chargé d'accepter ou de rejeter ces comptes à payer. Maintenant il disparaît et cela veut dire qu'il y a un obstacle de supprimé. Ayant travaillé tellement avec l'auditeur général au sein des Comptes publics, il me semble qu'il aura à se situer au milieu de tout ça et qu'il aura énormément plus de responsabilités qu'il en a eues dans le passé. Ses responsabilités seront beaucoup plus étendues.

M. Brittain: Si ce que je crois être vrai, est en effet vrai, s'il y a divers systèmes de contrôle dans les Ministères je ne pourrai pas être d'accord avec cette déclaration. L'auditeur général, naturellement, a son personnel qui n'est pas centralisé mais qui se trouve répartit entre les divers Ministères, et rien ne changera à ce chapitre-là. Je ne cherchais pas à exprimer son point de vue, mais je m'imagine qu'il doit surtout être préoccupé par l'efficacité des systèmes des gestions financières d'un ministère et dans la limite où ils sont satisfaisants cela ne représenterait pas de tâches additionnelles pour lui.

Le président: C'est une vérification après la taxe alors qu'ils essaient d'établir de nouvelles procédures de vérification avant la taxe.

M. Hales: Je ne peux que de me demander pourquoi l'auditeur général ne devrait pas être préstent pour témoigner ici? Il aurait pu nous aider considérablement sur certaines questions.

Nous pourrions bénéficier de sa présence lors d'une autre réunion. Nous aurions l'occasion de lui poser des questions. Toutefois, cela relève du président.

Mr. Clermont: Mr. Chairman, is it not the responsibility of government to prepare legislation and that of the Auditor-General is to see to it that expenditures are spent according to the terms of the legislation? In my opinion, it is not up to the Auditor-General to prepare government legislation.

The Chairman: We cannot answer in the Auditor-General's stead, but...

Mr. Clermont: I, but I do think it is the responsibility of the government to prepare its own legislation and to pass the appropriations necessary for the country's administration but not that of the Auditor-General. You are a Chartered Accountant, Mr. Chairman, and as an auditor your responsibility is to check the books, not to comment on the expenditures. It was merely a comment I wanted to make. But I do not think it is the responsibility of the Auditor-General to come here and tell whether or not the legislation is sound.

[*Text*]

Le président: Monsieur Lambert?

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): Is it your opinion that this will streamline the operations as between departments and Treasury Board; and will this place more effective control or surveillance on pre-audit functions within the department?

Mr. Brittain: I am sure you will tell me, sir, if I do not answer your questions correctly; I am not trying to evade it. My comment would be that it would place more effective control on the officials of departments—that is, that responsibility would be much more readily identifiable because the responsibility is on the deputy head. Very clearly he cannot pass any of his responsibility on to some official outside of his department and say, "He was supposed to check this too, he missed it and I missed it, and he is equally to blame."

Mr. Hales: Getting back to clause 8, I understand that granting this right not to make a division in appropriations will not affect the Estimates. For instance, going back to Mr. Lambert's example of the National parks, we would have the heading National Parks, $15 million—I am talking about Estimates—and under that Park A $5 million, Park B $5 million, Park C $5 million. Is it correct that this will still continue to be in the Estimates?

Mr. Brittain: That is correct, sir.

Mr. Hales: This only takes effect when Park B, for example, decides not to use $5 million and the Department wants to use that $5 million in Park A. In such dases, as I understand it, the Department goes to Treasury Board to get this permission.

Mr. Brittain: As I understand your question, that is correct. We are talking now about the division of the $5 million—the method by which it is divided.

Mr. Hales: The Department is not going to use the $5 million for Park B which had been appropriated to them by the House.

Mr. Brittain: That is correct.

Mr. Hales: They are not going to use it in Park B but they want to use it in Park A. In order to transfer that they have to get approval of Treasury Board?

Mr. Brittain: Right.

Mr. Hales: Now it is at this point, where this division takes effect, that the Department

[*Interpretation*]

The Chairman: Mr. Lambert?

M. Lambert (Edmonton-Ouest): Croyez-vous que ceci normalisera les transactions entre les ministères et le conseil du Trésor? Et deuxièmement, est-ce que cela permettra un contrôle ou une surveillance plus efficace sur les fonctions qui précèdent la vérification au sein du ministère.

M. Brittain: Je suis certain, monsieur, que vous interviendrez si je ne réponds pas à votre question correctement. Je n'essaie pas d'échapper à votre question. Je crois qu'il y aurait plus de contrôle sur les fonctionnaires du ministère, c'est-à-dire qu'on peut retracer beaucoup plus facilement la responsabilité parce qu'elle repose sur le sous-ministre. Il ne peut nettement pas s'en remettre à quelque haut fonctionnaire hors du ministère et dire ensuite: «Il devait aussi le vérifier; cela lui a échappé et cela m'a échappé aussi, il est également à blâmer.»

M. Hales: Revenons au paragraphe 8. Je crois comprendre que le fait d'accorder ce droit de ne pas diviser les affectations n'aura pas d'incidence sur les prévisions. Revenant à l'exemple de M. Lambert, relatif aux parcs nationaux, nous aurions en titre: parcs nationaux 15 millions, je parle de crédits, et ensuite au poste du parc A, 7 millions, du parc B, 5 millions, du parc C, 5 millions. Est-ce vrai que cela continuera à figurer aux crédits?

M. Brittain: C'est exact, monsieur.

M. Hales: Ceci entrera en vigueur seulement quand, par exemple, le parc B aura décidé de ne pas utiliser les 5 millions et si le ministère veut utiliser les 5 millions dans le parc A. En pareil cas, le ministère s'adresse au Conseil du Trésor pour obtenir cette permission.

M. Brittain: Si j'ai bien compris votre question, c'est juste. Nous parlons maintenant de diviser le 5 millions, du mode de division.

M. Hales: Le ministère n'utilisera pas les 5 millions qui avaient été affectés à cette fin par la Chambre.

M. Brittain: C'est exact.

M. Hales: Il ne s'en servira pas pour le parc B, mais ils veulent l'utiliser pour le parc A. L'approbation du Conseil du Trésor est-elle nécessaire pour effectuer le transfert?

M. Brittain: C'est exact.

M. Hales: Comment se fait-il qu'à ce point, au moment où s'effectue le partage, que le

[*Texte*]

does not have to provide Treasury Board with a division of how this is going to be spent?

Mr. Brittain: To stay with the $5 million for Park A, the division that we would be talking about here would be the A1, A2, A3, A4, A5. If there is no requirement for division of 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, within Park A, this could be waived, but if the Treasury Board felt that it was a requirement that there be a division within Park A this would be required of the Department, and they would have to go to the Board if they wanted to move the money between A1 and A2.

The Chairman: Not between A and B.

Mr. Hales: So it is not going to affect the information members of the House receive; we will still have the same amount of information.

Mr. Brittain: Yes, sir, absolutely.

Mr. McCutcheon: My question is supplementary. We have the example of those three parks and in the Estimates there is $15 million. But some way in their decision-making process it is decided that they are not going to spend any money on Park B at all. We have a total of $15 million for three parks but we are not going to spend any money on one of them. Is it then possible that one park comes out with $10 million, another with $5 million, and the other one has nothing?

Mr. Brittain: Yes, if each park is an allotment as shown in the Estimates there is no change in this situation.

Mr. McCutcheon: In other words, this is a change. As I understand it, under the old method a decision not to spend would result in an item not expended, but now we are going to spend the whole $15 million in any event and nothing will go back into the general fund or what have you.

Mr. Brittain: If nothing is to be spent?

Mr. McCutcheon: Yes.

Mr. Brittain: That is correct. If the amount of $15 million was appropriated by Parliament and this $15 million was broken down into allotments showing each of the three parks at $5 million, the Treasury Board could approve a transfer of funds between parks A, B, or C, and that is as far as it could go without going back to Parliament.

Mr. Hales: Then just explain where this matter of division comes in at this point.

[*Interprétation*]

ministère ne soit pas tenu de fournir au Conseil du Trésor une répartition établissant comment ces fonds seront dépensés.

M. Brittain: Nous nous en tenons aux 5 millions pour le parc A. Le partage dont il serait question ici aurait trait à A1, A2, A3, A4 et A5. Il n'y a pas de nécessité de partager 1, 2, 3, 4 et 5 dans les cadres du parc A; ça pourrait être supprimé, mais si le Conseil du Trésor estimait nécessaire que l'on détaille dans le cadre du parc A, il faudrait que le ministère le fasse, et il serait tenu de s'adresser au Conseil du Trésor s'il voulait effectuer un transfert de fonds entre A1 et A2.

Le président: Non pas entre A et B?

M. Hales: Ainsi, ceci ne changera pas les renseignements que reçoivent les députés de la Chambre. Nous aurons encore en main le même nombre de renseignements.

M. Brittain: Oui, absolument.

M. McCutcheon: Je veux demander une question supplémentaire, monsieur le président. Nous avons cet exemple de trois parcs et les crédits sont de 15 millions de dollars. Mais dans la prise des décisions, on signifie qu'aucun montant ne sera dépensé pour le parc B. Nous avons un total de 15 millions pour trois parcs, mais dans le cas d'un de ces parcs, nous ne dépenserons pas d'argent. Est-il alors possible qu'un parc reçoive 10 millions, un autre 5, et qu'un autre n'en reçoive pas du tout?

M. Brittain: Oui, si chaque parc représente une affectation au chapitre des crédits, la situation demeure inchangée.

M. McCutcheon: En d'autres mots, c'est une modification. Si je comprends l'ancienne méthode, la décision de ne pas dépenser apparaîtrait comme une dépense non effectuée. Nous allons dépenser les 15 millions en entier à tout événement et rien ne sera versé au fonds consolidé ou ailleurs.

M. Brittain: Si rien n'est dépensé?

M. McCutcheon: Oui.

M. Brittain: C'est exact. Si le Parlement a voté 15 millions et si ces 15 millions étaient répartis en affectations à titre de 5 millions pour chacun des trois parcs, le Conseil du Trésor pourrait approuver un transfert de fonds d'un parc à l'autre et c'est tout ce que nous pourrions faire sans demander une autorisation au Parlement.

M. Hales: Alors expliquez-nous où intervient cette question de partage, où nous en sommes.

[*Text*]

Mr. Brittain: Let us say the allotment, for simplicity's sake, was for one park. First of all, we have an appropriation for a particular park and Treasury Board felt that there was reason, because of the nature of the operations, to break down this allotment for the park into parts—to divide this allotment into perhaps forest lands and park lands—this would be the kind of division that we are talking about.

The law now requires that the allotment of the $5 million for the park be subdivided. If it makes no sense to subdivide it, then the Board would waive the requirement of the department to subdivide it. If they say you have to divide between forest land and park land, then the department would be required to submit the division of that allotment to the Board and they would not be permitted to change those allotments without coming back to the Board and seeking approval.

• 1020

Mr. Hales, it is analogous to the old situation where we went from a vote into primary objects—standard objects of expenditure for travel, removal, and so forth.

Mr. Hales: I think I follow it now; if that park is not going to use the $5 million and the Department want it transferred into Park A it can ask Treasury Board.

"Is it all right for us to put all this into Park A and none in Park B?" and they do not have to say whether they are going to use it for logging purposes or for anything else—it is just OK to go ahead and use it.

Mr. Brittain: Except, sir, that it would be necessary for them to substantiate a reason for the change because that $5 million was alloted to Park A for very specific reasons which had to be defended and explained. And if there is some reason for requiring less in Park A and more in Park B this would have to be explained to the complete satisfaction of the Treasury Board. The very fact that there were surplus funds in Park A is not adequate reason to transfer them to Park B.

Mr. Robinson: Is this not covered by Subsection (3) of Section 29?

Mr. Brittain: That is correct, sir. Subsection (3) of Section 29, I think, covers your point.

The Chairman: Shall clause 8 carry?

Mr. Hales: Mr. Chairman, I am agreed on Clause 8, but just before you go on, I notice that Sections 29 and 30 have been repealed

[*Interpretation*]

M. Brittain: Supposons, pour simplifier, que l'affectation soit pour un parc—Avant tout, nous avons une affectation pour un parc en particulier, et, le Conseil du Trésor décide qu'il y a lieu, en raison de la nature des opérations, de répartir l'affectation réservée au parc en différentes parties, soit, par exemple, les terres boisées et les terres réservées aux parcs. Ceci serait le genre de partage dont nous parlons.

La loi exige maintenant que l'affectation réservée au parc soit subdivisée. Si la loi dit qu'une répartition doit être faite entre le Terrain boisé et le Terrain réservé aux parcs, le ministère serait tenu de soumettre la répartition au Conseil et il n'aurait pas le droit de modifier ces répartitions sans s'être adressé de nouveau au Conseil pour obtenir une permission. Monsieur Hales, cela revient à l'ancienne méthode où il fallait prendre un vote sur les questions primordiales, les questions normales, les frais de voyage, de déménagement et ainsi de suite.

M. Hales: Je vous suis maintenant, ce parc n'utilisera pas les 5 millions et le ministère veut qu'il soit transféré au parc A. Il peut demander au Conseil du Trésor s'il est d'accord que tout l'argent aille au parc A et que rien n'aille au parc B, et de dire s'il s'en serviront pour la coupe du bois ou à d'autres fins. Êtes-vous d'accord qu'on y aille et qu'on s'en serve?

M. Brittain: Excepté, monsieur, qu'il leur faudrait justifier ce changement, car ces 5 millions de dollars avaient été affectés au parc A pour des raisons qu'il avait fallu défendre et expliquer. S'il y a une raison pour avoir besoin de moins dans le parc A et de plus dans le parc B, il faudrait donner au Conseil du Trésor une explication valable. Le simple fait qu'il y ait des fonds excédentaires pour le parc A ne justifie pas un transfert de ces fonds au parc B.

M. Robinson: Cela n'est-il pas prévu au paragraphe (3) de l'article 29?

M. Brittain: Si, en effet, monsieur. Je crois que le paragraphe (3) de l'article 29 prévoit le cas dont vous parlez.

Le président: L'article 8 est-il adopté?

M. Hales: Monsieur le président, je suis d'accord avec l'article 8, mais avant que nous ne passions à autre chose, je ferai remarquer

[*Texte*]

and it still leaves in the Financial Administration Act Section 28, which has to do with Governor General's warrants. I bring this up at this time. It is really not a matter for this Committee, I guess, but I am rather surprised that when we are amending the Financial Administration Act, the Department did not recognize some of the recommendations of the Public Accounts Committee.

I know that in our fourth report, 1964-65, the Committee reported that a study be made of Governor General's warrants, and it seems strange to me that no change has been made in this Section 28. I am saying this merely for the record, but I think Parliament should decide whether it wants business to proceed as usual as it is apparently doing now, when the House is not in session, or whether it wants only essential payments made by means of Governor General's warrants as presently provided for in this Section 28. So I am sorry that they did not amend Section 28 along the lines of our recommendations. But they have decided not to, so I guess it is just a matter of notation. I think you recall that Mr. Leblanc.

The Chairman: Yes I recall that. We have been sitting together for a long time now. Clause 9?

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): Clause 8.

The Chairman: I am sorry, Clause 8.

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): Yes, the new subsection (5) on page 7.

The Chairman: Yes, Section 30, subsection (5).

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): Yes, this is a form of Governor-General's warrants, I guess. This has to do with:

> (5) Where Parliament is not in session and appropriations set forth in estimates for the current fiscal year that were tabled in the House of Commons have not been granted in full, any contract of other arrangement providing for the payment of money by Her Majesty may be entered into if any commitments thereunder that would come in course of payment during the year do not exceed the unemcumbered balance of the item in such estimates...

[*Interprétation*]

que l'on a abrogé les articles 29 et 30, mais pas l'article 28 de la Loi sur l'administration financière, relatif aux mandats du gouverneur général. Je soulève cette question maintenant. Je suppose qu'elle ne concerne pas notre Comité, mais je m'étonne de voir qu'alors que nous modifions la Loi sur l'administration financière, le ministère n'a pas tenu compte de certaines des recommandations du Comité des comptes publics.

Je sais que dans le quatrième rapport, celui de 1964-1965, le Comité avait recommandé que l'on étudie la question des mandats du gouverneur général, et il me semble étrange que l'on n'ait apporté aucune modification à cet article 28. Je fais cette réflexion pour que cela figure dans le compte rendu, mais je pense que le Parlement devrait décider si oui ou non il veut que les affaires se continuent comme d'habitude, et comme cela semble se faire actuellement, lorsque la Chambre ne siège pas, ou s'il veut que seuls les paiements essentiels soient effectués au moyen des mandats du gouverneur général, comme le prévoit actuellement l'article 28. Je regrette donc que l'on n'ait pas modifié l'article 28 conformément à nos recommandations. Mais on a décidé de ne pas le faire, et je suppose que ce n'est donc qu'une remarque du passage. Je pense que vous devez vous en souvenir, monsieur Leblanc.

Le président: Oui, je m'en souviens. Il y a maintenant longtemps que nous siégeons ensemble. Sur l'article 9?

M. Lambert (Edmonton-Ouest): Non, sur l'article 8.

Le président: Excusez-moi.

M. Lambert (Edmonton-Ouest): C'est au sujet de nouveau paragraphe (5), à la page 7.

Le président: Oui, le paragraphe (5) de l'article 30 de la Loi.

M. Lambert (Edmonton-Ouest): Oui, je suppose qu'il s'agit là d'une forme de mandat du gouverneur général. On y dit:

> (5) Lorsque le Parlement n'est pas en session et que les crédits indiqués dans le budget des dépenses pour l'année financière courante qui a été présenté à la Chambre des communes n'ont pas été accordés dans leur intégralité, tout contrat ou autre arrangement prévoyant le paiement de deniers par Sa Majesté peut être conclu si tous engagements en découlant qui viendraient à échéance au cours de l'année ne dépassent pas le solde non grevé du poste de ce budget...

[*Text*]

In other words, this means that if Parliament is not in session, and what they mean there by "not in session" is a period, I take it, under the Act of anything in excess of two weeks.

• 1025

Mr. Brittain: This is to take care of the situation, sir, when Parliament is dissolved for purposes of an election.

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): Oh, but that is—I think we will go back to other definitions though, where it says that Parliament is deemed not to be in session when it is just two weeks.

Mr. Brittain: Section 28, subsection (5), of the existing Act, Mr. Chairman, reads:

When Parliament deemed not in session.

(5) For the purposes of this section, Parliament shall be deemed to be not in session when it is under adjournement *sine die* or to a day more than two weeks after the day the Governor in Council made the order directing the preparation of the special warrants.

That is as it reads now. This new Section which we are looking at and examining at the moment is not expenditure. It is not authority to spend, but it is authority to make commitments. If for example, I require a piece of equipment, this would give me authority to enter into the contract with a firm, to supply that equipment perhaps a few days hence, or perhaps six or eight months hence, and the money that is used to pay the ensuing account may or may not be paid from funds made available through Governor General's warrants or through appropriations.

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): What I was thinking of was the situation where—now interim supply is a negligent matter, the control over expenditures through the control of interim supply, because the estimates tabled in February must be through by May 31, and they must all be passed by June 30. But there is no period when the House is not normally in session for a period exceeding two weeks.

I will put it to you, Mr. Chairman, that there is no limitation to the words "where Parliament is not in session". There was in the old Section 28 Subsection (5), but I cannot see—subject to correction though—in the definitions clause of the Financial Adminis-

[*Interpretation*]

En d'autres termes, cela veut dire que lorsque le Parlement n'est pas en session—et je suppose qu'en vertu de la Loi, «pas en session» signifie une période de plus de deux semaines...

M. Brittain: Cela, monsieur, prévoit les cas où l'on dissout le Parlement en vue d'une élection.

M. Lambert (Edmonton-Ouest): Mais c'est...Je crois que nous pouvons nous reporter à d'autres définitions, où l'on dit que le Parlement est considéré comme n'étant pas en session même lorsqu'il ne s'agit que de deux semaines.

M. Brittain: Monsieur le président, on dit, au paragraphe (5) de l'article 28 de la Loi qui est en vigueur à l'heure actuelle:

Quand le Parlement est réputé ne pas être en session.

(5) Aux fins du présent article, le Parlement est censé ne pas être en session lorsqu'il est en ajournement *sine die* ou jusqu'à une date de plus de deux semaines postérieure au jour où le gouverneur en conseil a rendu l'arrêté ordonnant la préparation du mandat spécial.

C'est là le texte actuel de la Loi. Ce nouvel article que nous examinons actuellement n'a pas trait aux dépenses. Il s'agit de donner pouvoir non de faire des dépenses, mais de prendre des engagements. Si, par exemple, j'avais besoin de matériel, cela me donnerait pouvoir de signer un contrat avec une entreprise pour qu'elle me fournisse ce matériel quelques jours plus tard ou peut-être six ou huit mois plus tard; l'argent nécessaire pour payer la facture pourrait être ou pourrait ne pas être tiré de fonds fournis grâce à un crédit du Parlement ou grâce à un mandat du gouverneur général.

M. Lambert (Edmonton-Ouest): Je pensais au cas où... mais les crédits provisoires sont une question de négligence, le contrôle des dépenses au moyen d'un contrôle des crédits provisoires, car les prévisions budgétaires doivent être toutes étudiées avant le 31 mai, et adoptées avant le 30 juin. Mais il n'y a aucune période où la Chambre ne soit pas en session, normalement, pour plus de deux semaines.

Je vous fais remarquer, monsieur le président, qu'il n'y a aucune limite imposée par l'expression: «lorsque le Parlement n'est pas en session». Il y en avait une dans l'ancien paragraphe (5) de l'article 28, mais je ne vois rien—que l'on me corrige si je me trompe—

[*Texte*]

tration Act or elsewhere when Parliament is deemed to be in session and not in session.

Is it merely an adjournment after—it is not adjournment because there is prorogation at the end of the session. I will admit that up until Parliament re-opens, Parliament is not in session. Does a fortnight's adjournment, say at Christmas or at Easter, mean that Parliament is not then in session? Or is this somewhere defined as either during the period between prorogation and re-opening, or after the dissolution of Parliament?

Mr. Brittain: This is to cover the dissolution.

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): Dissolution only?

Mr. Brittain: Yes. This is when the Estimates cease to be before the House.

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): If we go back to Section 28, Subsection (1), there again it says "when Parliament is not in session". I am looking at the Office Consolidation, page 15, in the second line of Section 28, Subsection (1). When is Parliament not in session?

The Chairman: That is defined in Section 28 Subsection (5), when it is dissolved.

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): But you are removing Section 28, Subsection (5).

The Chairman: We are not removing Section 28 Subsection (5), Mr. Lambert. Section 28, Subsection (5) stays in the bill, in the previous Act. We are not doing anything with that clause.

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): All right, fine. You have explained it to my satisfaction.

Clause 8 agreed to.

On Clause 9.

The Chairman: Mr. Robinson.

Mr. Robinson: I have a question, Mr. Chairman, on Clause 9. Would it be fair to say that if a commitment has been made—and I would assume it is made when the original appropriations are made—it would seem that this clause is actually redundant?

The Chairman: What is your question exactly, Mr. Robinson?

[*Interprétation*]

dans l'article des définitions de la Loi sur l'administration financière, ou ailleurs, qui indique quand le Parlement est censé être ou ne pas être en session.

S'agit-il simplement d'un ajournement après... il ne s'agit pas d'un ajournement à cause d'une prorogation à la fin de la session. J'admets que, jusqu'à ce que le Parlement recommence à siéger, il n'est pas en session. Est-ce qu'un ajournement de deux semaines, par exemple à Noël au à Pâques, signifie que le Parlement n'est alors pas en session? Ou définit-on cela quelque part comme étant la période entre la prorogation et la réouverture, ou celle qui suit la dissolution du Parlement?

M. Brittain: Il s'agit de la dissolution.

M. Lambert (Edmonton-Ouest): De la dissolution seulement?

M. Brittain: Oui. C'est alors que les prévisions budgétaires ne sont plus présentées à la Chambre.

M. Lambert (Edmonton-Ouest): Si nous retournons au paragraphe (1) de l'article 28, nous voyons de nouveau l'expression: «lorsque le Parlement n'est pas en session».

Je consulte le document intitulé «Codification administrative», page 15, à la deuxième ligne du paragraphe (1) de l'article 28. Quand le Parlement n'est-il pas en session?

Le président: Cela est défini au paragraphe (5) de l'article 28: lorsqu'il est dissous.

M. Lambert (Edmonton-Ouest): Mais vous abrogez le paragraphe (5) de l'article 28.

Le président: Non, monsieur Lambert, nous n'abrogeons pas le paragraphe (5) de l'article 28. Il est conservé dans la loi précédente. Nous ne touchons pas à cet article.

M. Lambert (Edmonton-Ouest): Fort bien. Vous m'avez donné une explication satisfaisante.

L'article 8 est adopté.

Sur l'article 9.

Le président: Monsieur Robinson.

M. Robinson: J'aimerais poser une question au sujet de l'article 9, monsieur le président. Puis-je dire avec justesse que si l'on s'est engagé—et je suppose que l'on prend un engagement lorsque les affectations originales sont faites—cet article fait, en réalité, double emploi?

Le président: Quelle est exactement votre question, monsieur Robinson?

[*Text*]

Mr. Robinson: The clause states:

> 9 (3) No requisition shall be made pursuant to subsection (1) for a payment that... (a), (b) and (c)

I am suggesting that once the money has already been placed in the appropriations the commitment is made. Is this not so?

Mr. Brittain: I would not say the commitment has been made, sir. But once a commitment is made and accounts arise therefrom as a result of contracts, for example, pre-audit, as we have known it—an audit of vouchers, let us say—must take place. This is the purpose of this section.

Mr. Robinson: Can you explain to me further when a commitment is actually made under the appropriations?

Mr. Brittain: A commitment is made when one enters into a contract to purchase goods or services.

Mr. Robinson: In other words, it is not sufficient merely to say, "We are going to carry out a certain program and we are appropriating "X" numbers of dollars for it." That is not making a commitment?

Mr. Brittain: In terms of commitment control it is, because funds must be allocated to that project.

Mr. Robinson: Allocated by way of the appropriation?

Mr. Brittain: They are allocated from the appropriation; and if we use the term "appropriation" to mean an appropriation of Parliament, this then is a vote and provides spending authority to departments up to a certain amount; and departments must be sure, by control of their commitments, that they do not over-spend that amount. Therefore, in the process of controlling their commitments they effectively block off a certain amount of money for that project—an amount which would become payable sometime during the course of the fiscal year.

This section which deals with what we have chosen to call pre-audit is the actual verification of the accounts to ensure that they are in accordance with the law and the intent of the Appropriation Act.

Mr. Robinson: In other words, although you have made an appropriation in the estimates for a proposed commitment, the commitment is not actually made until you go a step further.

[*Interpretation*]

M. Robinson: On dit dans cet article:

> (3) Aucune réquisition ne peut être faite conformément au paragraphe (1) en vue d'un paiement qui... *a*), *b*) et *c*)

Je veux dire que lorsque les affectations ont déjà été faites, l'engagement est pris. N'en est-il pas ainsi?

M. Brittain: On ne peut pas dire qu'un engagement a nécessairement été pris, monsieur. Mais une fois qu'un engagement est pris, et que, par suite de contrats, par exemple, il y a des factures à payer, il doit se faire une vérification préalable, comme nous en avons l'habitude—une vérification des pièces justificatives, disons. C'est là l'objet de cet article.

M. Robinson: Pourriez-vous me dire, alors, quand on prend vraiment un engagement aux termes des affectations?

M. Brittain: On prend un engagement lorsqu'on signe un contrat pour l'achat de biens ou de services.

M. Robinson: Autrement dit, il n'est pas suffisant de dire: «Nous allons appliquer tel ou tel programme et nous affectons telle ou telle somme à cette fin»? Cela ne constitue pas un engagement?

M. Brittain: Du point de vue du contrôle, si, car des fonds doivent être affectés à ce programme.

M. Robinson: Affectés au moyen d'affectation?

M. Brittain: Ils sont affectés à partir de l'affectation, oui; et si ce terme signifie une affectation du Parlement, il s'agit alors d'un crédit qui donne au ministère le pouvoir de faire des dépenses jusqu'à concurrence d'une certaine somme; les ministères doivent surveiller leurs engagements et prendre garde à ne pas faire de dépenses excessives. Par conséquent, en surveillant leurs engagements, les ministères réservent effectivement une certaine somme pour tel ou tel programme, somme qui sera due au cours de l'année financière.

L'article qui traite de ce que nous avons choisi d'appeler la vérification préalable est la vérification réelle des comptes en vue d'assurer que ces comptes soient conformes au fond et à l'objet de la Loi des subsides.

M. Robinson: Autrement dit, même si l'on a fait une affectation dans le budget pour un engagement prévu, l'engagement n'est pas réellement pris jusqu'à ce que l'on soit passé à l'étape suivante.

[*Texte*]

Mr. Brittain: That is correct.

Mr. Hales: Could Mr. Brittain give us an example that might explain subclause (4)? We will say that the "appropriate Minister" is the minister of supplies and services, who will be the Receiver General. Suppose he buys 26 airplanes and he desires the direction of the Treasury Board on whether or not that bill should be paid—he is undecided. The Treasury Board can decide whether it should, or should not, be paid?

Mr. Brittain: That is correct, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. Hales: Does it happen once in a while that a minister would be in that position?

Mr. Brittain: Very rarely does it arise today that neither the Minister nor the Comptroller are able to decide whether a payment should be made. On a rare occasion it has arisen, and in such a case, when a decision cannot be reached by a department, when the Deputy Minister or the Minister cannot be absolutely sure in his own mind that it is proper, or appropriate, to make the payment, because of the time of year, perhaps, he can then refer it to the Treasury Board who will give him an opinion.

Le président: Monsieur Clermont?

M. Clermont: Monsieur le président, je voudrais demander à M. Brittain d'expliquer la différence entre (b) et (c) dans le cas où une réquisition ne peut être faite.

Le président: A quelle page?

M. Clermont: Page 8:

b) entraînerait une dépense supérieure au crédit; ou

c) réduirait le solde disponible du crédit au point de le rendre insuffisant pour l'exécution des engagements imputés en l'espèce.

Qu'est-ce vous entendez par «insuffisant»?

Mr. Brittain: Mr. Chairman, this is to cover all situations in the avoidance of over-spending of an appropriation. The actual issue of a cheque could conceivably result in the over-expenditure of the appropriation. However, during the year one has to ensure that all the commitments that one enters into—all the contracts and so forth—will not, in total, by the time the year end arrives, result in an over-expenditure of the appropriation.

The is the essential purpose of commitment control. It is to ensure that you do not com-

[*Interprétation*]

M. Brittain: C'est exact.

M. Hales: Je me demande si M. Brittain pourrait nous citer un exemple qui illustrerait le paragraphe 4. Mettons que le «ministre compétent» soit le ministre des Approvisionnements et Services, qui joue le rôle de receveur général. Mettons qu'il achète 26 avions et qu'il désire avoir des directives du Conseil du Trésor pour savoir si ce compte doit être payé ou non—mettons qu'il soit indécis. Le Conseil du Trésor peut alors décider s'il ya lieu de payer ou non le compte?

M. Brittain: C'est exact, monsieur le président.

M. Hales: Arrive-t-il parfois qu'un ministre se trouve dans cette situation?

M. Brittain: Il est très rare aujourd'hui que ni le ministre ni le contrôleur ne puissent décider si le paiement devra être fait ou non. Le problème s'est posé à de très rares occasions, et dans ce cas, lorsque le ministère ne peut arriver à une décision, et que ni le sous-ministre ni le ministre ne sont absolument certains qu'il soit bon de faire le paiement, étant donné la période de l'année, mettons, on peut en déférer au Conseil du Trésor, qui donnera son opinion.

The Chairman: Mr. Clermont?

Mr. Clermont: Mr. Chairman, I would like Mr. Britain to explain the difference between (b) and (c) in a case where a requisition cannot be made.

The Chairman: What page is this?

Mr. Clermont: It is on page 8:

(b) would result in an expenditure in excess of the appropriation; or

(c) would reduce the balance available in the appropriation so that it would not be sufficient to meet the commitments charged against it.

What do you mean by "not be sufficient"?

M. Brittain: Monsieur le président, cela sert à prévoir toutes les situations en évitant de faire des dépenses trop élevées pour une affectation. L'émission réelle d'un chèque, par exemple, pourrait donner lieu à une dépense excédentaire de l'affectation. Cependant, au cours de l'année, il faut s'assurer que tous les engagements que l'on prend—tous les contrats que l'on signe, etc.—ne dépassent pas, au total, et d'ici la fin de l'année, le montant de l'affectation.

Tel est le but essentiel du contrôle des engagements. Il ne faut pas engager plus de

[*Text*]

mit more funds at any time in the year than you will be available for the entire year, in accordance with the appropriations.

M. Clermont: Merci, monsieur le président.

The Chairman: Mr. McCutcheon?

Mr. McCutcheon: I have a supplementary. In the case of the now famous ship, the *Bonaventure,* would this procedure have reduced the expenditures, or what would have happened in that case? I am not very good on technicalities, but I would like to know a little about the practical application.

Mr. Brittain: This makes no change in that situation, Mr. Chairman. I believe that not to be directly germane to this section.

Mr. McCutcheon: Probably not.

Mr. Brittain: No; and all I can add is that when one gets into developmental work it becomes exceedingly difficult to determine the amount of commitment that should be made for a particular project.

Mr. McCutcheon: Do you feel that this will be helpful in other instances where we overspend on things that are not of a development nature?

Mr. Brittain: It would depend, sir, on the nature of the thing to which you refer. If the proposed expenditure is of a nature that is quantifiable, measurable, and so on, this will prevent over-expenditure; and this is the normal situation in most departments' operations.

It would be part of the normal accounting procedure for government departments. It obviously does not deal with matters of judgment, and things of that kind.

The Chairman: Shall Clause 9 carry?

Mr. Hales: I have one question. Suppose the audit service branch in a department suggested, or recommended, that such a bill be not paid, or approved. Could the Deputy Minister over-rule?

Mr. Brittain: Yes, he could. You are referring to the audit service in a department, Mr. Hales?

Mr. Hales: Yes.

Mr. Brittain: Yes, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. Hales: The Deputy Minister could over-rule?

Mr. Brittain: He could over-rule.

[*Interpretation*]

fonds au cours de l'année que l'on n'en aura pour l'année entière, selon les affectations.

M. Clermont: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Le président: Monsieur McCutcheon?

M. McCutcheon: J'ai une question supplémentaire. Dans le cas maintenant célèbre du *Bonaventure,* cette façon de procéder aurait-elle réduit les dépenses, ou que se serait-il produit? Je ne suis pas expert dans les détails techniques, mais j'aimerais avoir une meilleure idée de l'application pratique de cette forme de contrôle.

M. Brittain: Cela ne change rien à cette situation-là, monsieur le président. Je ne pense pas que cela ait un rapport direct avec cet article.

M. McCutcheon: Sans doute pas.

M. Brittain: Non; et j'ajouterai simplement que lorsqu'il s'agit d'un travail de mise en valeur, il est extrêmement difficile de déterminer le montant des engagements que l'on peut prendre pour une entreprise donnée.

M. McCutcheon: Estimez-vous que ce sera utile dans d'autres cas, où l'on fait des dépenses excessives pour des choses qui ne constituent pas une forme de mise en valeur?

M. Brittain: Cela dépendrait, monsieur, de la nature des travaux en cause. Si les dépenses envisagées sont mesurables, cela empêchera les dépenses excédentaires; c'est la situation normale en ce qui concerne le fonctionnement de la plupart des ministères.

Cela fait partie de la comptabilité normale des ministères. Évidemment, il ne se pose pas là de question de jugement, et autres choses de ce genre.

Le président: L'article 9 est-il adopté?

M. Hales: J'ai une question à poser. Mettons que le service de vérification des comptes d'un ministère propose, ou recommande, qu'un compte soit payé ou approuvé. Le sous-ministre pourrait-il annuler cette décision?

M. Brittain: Oui. Vous voulez bien parler du service de vérification des comptes d'un ministère, monsieur Hales?

M. Hales: Oui.

M. Brittain: La réponse est oui, monsieur le président.

M. Hales: Le sous-ministre pourrait annuler la décision?

M. Brittain: Oui.

[*Texte*]

Mr. Hales: And that could go to Treasury Board for payment?

Mr. Brittain: To the department services.

Mr. Hales: There is a bit of a weakness there. I do not know how you overcome it.

The Chairman: Is it not more of a strength than instead of a weakness?

• 1040

Mr. Hales: I do not suppose it would very often happen that a Deputy Minister would over-rule his audit service division?

Mr. Brittain: Operational audit groups in departments as they now exist operate in a fashion very, very independent from the line operations. They report to top management. I find it practically inconceivable that a Deputy Minister would over-rule.

Mr. Hales: This raises a very good point. Who is his superior, in the audit services branch?

Mr. Brittain: In the audit services branch?

Mr. Hales: Yes, within a department?

Mr. Brittain: Withing a department it would be a senior official, the deputy minister or the assistant deputy minister.

Clauses 9, and 10 agreed to.

On Clause 11—*Form of payments out of CRF*

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton-West): When reference is made to the Receiver General, this means the minister of supply and services. Is this not right?

Mr. Brittain: Yes.

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): From here on in, then, every payment pursuant to an appropriation shall be made under the direction and control of the Receiver General, which I take it is the minister of supply?

Mr. Brittain: That is correct, sir.

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): Even for the Department of Public Works.

Mr. Brittain: The minister of supply, who is the Receiver General.

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): You cannot answer the question because it is a policy

[*Interprétation*]

M. Hales: Et le compte irait alors au Conseil du Trésor en vue du paiement?

M. Brittain: Cela irait aux services du ministère.

M. Hales: Il y a ici une faiblesse. Je ne sais comment on peut la surmonter.

Le président: N'est-ce pas un élément de force plutôt que de faiblesse?

M. Hales: Je suppose que le sous-ministre n'annule pas très souvent la décision du service de vérification des comptes?

M. Brittain: Les services de vérification des ministères tels qu'ils existent actuellement fonctionnent de façon très indépendante par rapport aux services organiques. Ils font directement rapport à la direction principale. Il me semble presque inconcevable qu'un sous-ministre désavoue la décision de ce service.

M. Hales: Cela soulève une question très intéressante. Quel est son supérieur dans le service de vérification des comptes?

M. Brittain: Dans les services de vérification des comptes?

M. Hales: Oui, au sein d'un ministère.

M. Brittain: A l'intérieur d'un ministère, ce serait un haut fonctionnaire, le sous-ministre ou le sous-ministre adjoint.

Les articles 9 et 10 sont adoptés.

Sur l'article 11—*Forme de paiements sur le Fonds du revenu consolidé.*

M. Lambert (Edmonton Ouest): Quand on parle du Receveur général, il s'agit maintenant du ministre des Approvisionnements et Services, n'est-ce pas?

M. Brittain: Oui.

M. Lambert (Edmonton-Ouest): Dorénavant, tous les paiements aux termes d'un crédit doivent être faits sur les instructions et sous la direction du receveur général, qui est, en somme, le ministre des Approvisionnements?

M. Britain: C'est exact, monsieur.

M. Lambert (Edmonton-Ouest): Même pour le ministre des Travaux publics?

M. Brittain: Le ministre des Approvisionnements qui est le receveur général.

M. Lambert (Edmonton-Ouest): Vous ne pouvez pas répondre à la question car il s'agit

[*Text*]

question, but I find it absolutely impossible to envision that the minister of supply should also be the Receiver General. As I understand it, the function of Receiver General is still over the Minister of Finance and should have remained as such. Having said that, we can carry on.

Clauses 11 and 12 agreed to.

On Clause 13—*Lapsing of appropriations*

Mr. Hales: This is a very important amendment. It deals with the lapsing of appropriations. I think all parliamentarians are very concerned about the money they have granted departments to spend. By the time the end of the year rolls around and a department finds they have "x" millions of dollars which they were granted but have not spent, they go on a wild spending binge and spend that money rather than let it lapse. Everyone is human and this is what goes on.

I am afraid this amendment will facilitate the using of funds which would otherwise lapse and I do not think we want that to happen.

We had an illustration of this in the Public Accounts Committee the other day. The Department of National Defence had a contract with the American government, I believe, to the extent of $7 million, and the Department transferred that $7 million into a bank in the United States so that they could eventually use it on the contract but they transferred it over there before the year lapsed. They did not want that $7 million to lapse, so they sent it over there in payment before the work has done. I think it is spelled out here...

Mr. Brittain: Before work is performed, goods received or services rendered.

Mr. Hales: Yes, here it is:

> ...payable for work performed, goods received or service rendered...

This had not been done but yet they transferred the $7 million over there. I think we should give this pretty careful scrutiny and make sure we are not making it easier to do this.

Mr. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Did you say this was done before the work was performed?

Mr. Hales: Yes.

[*Interpretation*]

là d'une question relative à la ligne de conduite gouvernementale. Il me semble absolument impossible de voir comment le ministre des Approvisionnements pourrait être ainsi receveur général. Pour moi, le receveur général est encore au-dessus du ministre des Finances et aurait dû rester. Ceci dit, nous pouvons continuer notre discussion.

Les articles 11 et 12 sont adoptés.

Sur l'article 13—*Annulation des crédits*

M. Hales: Il s'agit là d'un amendement très important. Je crois que tous les députés se préoccupent beaucoup des crédits qu'ils ont accordé aux ministères vers la fin de l'année financière, lorsque dans un ministère on constate qu'on a reçu «X» millions de dollars et qu'ils ne sont pas encore utilisés, on se lance dans une campagne de dépenses excessives et on préfère délapider cet argent plutôt que de laisser les affectations s'annuler d'elles-mêmes. Tout le monde est humain et c'est ce qui se passe.

Je crains que cette modification facilite l'utilisation de fonds qui autrement s'annuleraient automatiquement, je ne crois pas que c'est ce que nous voulons.

L'autre jour, au Comité des comptes publics, on nous a présenté une situation de ce genre. Le ministère de la Défense nationale détenait un contrat avec le gouvernement américain dans la mesure de $7 millions, je crois. Le ministère en cause a transféré cette somme à une banque américaine afin de pouvoir s'en servir éventuellement pour le contrat, mais on y a fait le transfert avant la fin de l'année financière. On ne voulait pas que la somme de $7 millions soit annulée. On l'a donc envoyée en paiement, avant que le travail soit fait. Je pense qu'on l'inscrit ainsi.

M. Brittain: Avant que le travail soit accompli, les marchandises reçues ou les services rendus.

M. Hales: Oui, le voici:

> ...payable pour des travaux accomplis, des marchandises reçues ou des services rendus..

Cela n'avait pas encore été fait en pourtant, on avait transféré $7 millions de dollars. Je crois que nous devrions étudier cette question très à fond et nous assurer que nous ne sommes pas en train de faciliter ce genre d'opérations.

M. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Avez-vous dit qu'on avait transféré les fonds avant que le travail soit accompli?

M. Hales: Oui.

[*Texte*]

Mr. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): But anticipated?

Mr. Hales: Yes, anticipated.

Mr. Robinson: I also have some concern about this clause, although it does not entirely relate to the area about which Mr. Hales is concerned. I am concerned about extending the range of payments because it seems to me that under the old section, as I understand it, it was a question of paying for work performed, goods received or services rendered.

In extending the range of payments it would mean that it would even go beyond this to the situation where even though no work has been performed, no goods have been received and no services have been rendered, the department is still liable to pay a debt. I understand that this is where a contract may have been entered into by the government for perhaps $1 million and then for some reason or other they decide that what they were going to purchase is now obsolete and they are not going to enter into it, or it would be more costly to carry on this program. In effect we are opening the door and letting them pay for a program when nothing has been received. Is this really what it means? In other worlds, somebody has made a mistake and entered into a contract and we are opening the door so we can pay for it.

The Chairman: It says "for the purpose of discharging a debt that became due". So, I suppose the debt had to be due.

Mr. Brittain: Mr. Chairman, in reply to the three members of the Committee who spoke, may I say first of all that we delete the words "for work peformed, goods received or services rendered" and substitute "any debt payable during the year in which it was incurred."

The purpose of this is that while the vast majority of cases remain as they have been in the past—we are referring now to work performed, goods provided or services rendered—there are certain contracts, which are very few in number, where a down payment is required. For example, if a writer is hired one pays 10 per cent on entering into the contract.

There are certain other circumstances where, because this is the nature of the trade, one must make a down payment of a certain percentage on the signing of a contract, and as the law now stands provision is not made for this type of a contract. I believe, one must

[*Interprétation*]

M. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Mais anticipé?

M. Hales: Oui.

M. Robinson: Cet article me préoccupe aussi même si mes préoccupations ne se rattachent pas exactement au domaine qui intéresse monsieur Hales.

Je me préoccupe plutôt de l'extension de la gamme de paiement qui d'après l'ancien article, me semblait être une question de paiement pour des travaux accomplis, des marchandises reçues ou des services rendus.

En élargissant l'éventail des paiements, il semble que cela ira jusqu'à ce que, même si aucun travail n'a été accompli, aucun service n'a été rendu et aucune marchandise n'a été reçue, le ministère soit encore passible de dettes. Je comprends que cela soit ainsi, si un contrat a été passé par le gouvernement, pour peut-être $1 million, et que pour une raison ou pour une autre, on décide, par exemple, que ce contrat porte sur quelque chose de désuet, qu'on ne va pas conclure le contrat, ou qu'il serait trop coûteux de donner suite au projet. En fait, nous entrebâillons la porte et nous laissons le ministère payer pour des programmes alors que rien n'a encore été reçu. Est-ce vraiment là le sens de la disposition? Autrement dit, si quelqu'un fait une erreur en signant un contrat, nous ouvrons la porte de façon à payer pour cette erreur.

Le président: On dit simplement: «afin d'acquitter une dette qui *était devenue payable.*» Je présume que la dette doit être devenue payable.

M. Brittain: Monsieur le président, en réponse aux trois députés qui ont fait des interventions, puis-je signaler tout d'abord, que nous éliminons les mots «travaux accomplis, marchandises reçues ou services rendus» et que nous y substituons une dette qui était devenue payable avant la fin de l'année financière.

La majorité des cas restent ce qu'ils étaient dans le passé, je parle ici des travaux accomplis, des marchandises reçues ou des services rendus. Mais pour certains contrats peu nombreux on exige un versement initial. Par exemple, si on embauche un écrivain, il faut lui payer 10 p. 100 à partir du moment où l'on passe le contrat.

Il y a d'autres circonstances où en raison de la nature du contrat, il faut faire un versement initial équivalent à un pourcentage de la somme totale du contrat, et aux termes actuels de la loi, la disposition en question ne prévoit pas ce genre de contrat. Je présume

[*Text*]

pay 10 per cent when one enters into a contract with a writer. This is the only purpose for this, and when it says "extend the range of payment," in this case it means to extend it to include provision to enter into a contract with a writer and pay him 10 per cent on entering the contract.

Mr. Robinson: But does it not also cover the situation where in effect some department of government has made a contract and there has been no performance whatsoever of the contract but the obligation is there, so theoretically payment of $1 million could be made and this would not be covered by the old section—it could not be made because it did not fall within the words "work performed, goods received or service rendered".

Mr. Brittain: No.

Mr. Robinson: You do not really expect me to believe that, do you? You are not serious when you say that?

Mr. Brittain: If I understand your question correctly, sir...

Mr. Robinson: I am saying that the previous words limited the liability to either work performed, goods received or services rendered, and you are broadening the scope of this, and I think I have given you an apt illustration where you would find yourself making a payment that you could not have made under the previous Act.

Mr. Brittain: This is the provision for the payment of debts during the 30 days following the end of the fiscal year, for accounts which arose during the fiscal year.

• 1050

Mr. Robinson: I appreciate that. In understand that very well. This may have been a debt that was incurred, but I think when you use the word "debt" you have to describe it. It covers any kind of monetary obligation.

It could have been incurred at the beginning of the year and was never paid, and you are still allowed 30 days beyond that to pay it, but previously you could not have paid it anyway because of the limiting words "work performed, goods received or services rendered". If it did not fall into this category there was no power to make payment, there was no authority to make payment, and now you are opening it up and saying you can pay anything.

[*Interpretation*]

qu'on doit verser 10 p. 100 de la somme totale à l'écrivain qui passe un contrat.

Voilà pourquoi lorsqu'on dit «étendre la gamme des paiements», cela signifie, dans ce cas, qu'il faut élargir un contrat pour insérer la disposition relative à un contrat passé avec un écrivain et au paiement de 10 p. 100, lorsque le contrat est conclu.

M. Robinson: Mais est-ce que cela ne comprend pas aussi la situation où en fait, quelques ministères du gouvernement ont conclu un contrat mais que le contrat n'est pas rempli et où l'obligation subsiste. En théorie, le paiement de $1 million de dollars pourrait être fait et il ne tomberait pas sous le coup de l'ancien article. Il pourrait ne pas être fait, parce qu'il ne tomberait pas sous la rubrique des «travaux accomplis, marchandises reçues ou services rendus».

M. Brittain: Non.

M. Robinson: Vous ne pensez pas que je vais vous croire. Vous blaguez n'est-ce pas?

M. Brittain: J'espère avoir bien compris votre question, monsieur.

M. Robinson: Je disais que l'ancienne expression limitait l'obligation relative aux travaux accomplis, aux marchandises reçues ou aux services rendus, dont vous élargissez considérablement la portée. Je pense que je vous ai fourni une bonne illustration d'une situation où vous feriez un paiement que vous n'auriez pas pu faire en vertu de l'ancienne loi.

M. Brittain: C'est la disposition qui se rapporte au paiement des dettes pendant les trente jours qui suivent la fin de l'année financière, pour des comptes contractés au cours de l'année financière.

M. Robinson: Je sais, je comprends très bien. C'était peut-être une dette qui avait été contractée. A mon avis, lorsque vous utilisez le terme «dette» il faut le définir. Ce mot comporte n'importe quel genre d'obligation monétaire.

La dette aurait fort bien pu être contractée au début de l'année et n'avoir jamais été payée, et vous autorisez en plus une période supplémentaire de trente jours pour le paiement. Auparavant, vous n'auriez pas pu le faire de toute façon, en raison de l'expression restrictive «travaux accomplis, marchandises reçues ou services rendus». Si la dette était entrée dans cette catégorie, il n'y avait aucun pouvoir pour faire le paiement, et maintenant, vous élargissez la disposition en disant que vous pouvez tout payer.

[*Texte*]

Mr. Brittain: What else would there be to pay for other than goods provided and services performed?

Mr. Robinson: I am suggesting to you contracts entered into where they have never been carried out at all. The obligation is still there; somebody has signed for something or signed a contract. This could not have been paid under the old section and I think there was a break as a result of this section and they had to be much more careful as to what they signed. Now you can sign virtually anything and the department will go ahead and pay it.

The Chairman: Mr. Thomson.

Mr. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): May I enlarge on this? For example, the work might not be done in this year at all. They might intend to start next week, but are they going to take some of it out of the appropriation for this year?

Mr. Robinson: No, I am not concerned about that. I am concerned about a situation—and I think there are illustrations of this kind although I will not go into detail—where they enter into a lease. Some government department enters into a lease of a building which could cost a million dollars but they never move into the building. They do not do anything with it, but the obligation is there under this lease and so they make a payment out under this proposed new section which they could not have made under the old section because there was no work performed, there were no goods received and there were no services rendered.

Mr. Hales: Or you could add one more to that—a contract dated March 31, and that contract called for an advance payment of all or part of the contract price; yet it might not have been sufficiently completed but they could go ahead and pay it. I fail to see...

Mr. Brittain: When we enter into contracts, the contract form provides for progress payments in accordance with the terms of the contract. Under Section 32 the Act which has not changed says that,

> No payment shall be made for the performance of work, the supply of goods or the rendering of services, whether under contract or not, in connection with any part of the public service, unless, in addition to any other voucher or certificate that is required, the deputy of the appro-

[*Interprétation*]

M. Brittain: Pour quelle autre chose devrions-nous payer si ce n'est pour des marchandises reçues et des services rendus?

M. Robinson: Je donne l'exemple de contrats qui sont signés, mais qui n'ont jamais été remplis. L'obligation demeure. Quelqu'un s'est engagé à faire quelque chose ou a signé un contrat. En vertu de l'ancien article, on n'aurait pas pu faire de paiement. Il y avait une espèce de frein à cause de cet article et il fallait signer avec beaucoup plus de prudence. Maintenant, on peut signer à peu près n'importe quoi et le ministère va simplement payer, sans plus.

Le président: Monsieur Thomson.

M. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Me permettez-vous de développer cette question? Il se peut par exemple que le travail ne soit pas fait au cours de l'année. Peut-être ont-ils l'intention de commencer la semaine prochaine mais vont-ils retirer quelque chose des crédits de cette année?

M. Robinson: Non, ce n'est pas cela qui me préoccupe. Je parle plutôt d'un cas,—et je crois qu'il en existe beaucoup d'exemples, mais je n'entrerai pas dans les détails,—où, par exemple, un ministère signe un bail pour un immeuble dont le loyer pourrait s'élever à 1 million de dollars, mais on n'emménage jamais dans les bureaux de cet immeuble. Ils n'en font rien mais l'obligation existe néanmoins aux termes du bail. Ainsi, ils peuvent faire un versement aux termes de ce nouvel article, qu'ils n'auraient pas pu faire aux termes de l'ancien article parce qu'aucun travail n'a été accompli, aucune marchandise n'aurait été reçue et aucun service n'a été rendu.

M. Hales: On peut ajouter un autre commentaire: un contrat, en date du 31 mars, qui demandait un versement préalable de tout le montant ou d'une partie du montant du contrat et, pourtant, le contrat aurait pu ne pas être suffisamment respecté, mais, ils pourraient en faire le paiement.

M. Brittain: Lorsque vous signez des contrats, la forme de présentation des contrats prévoit des acomptes à valoir conformes aux termes du contrat. L'article 32, la Loi, qui n'est pas modifié, stipule que:

> Aucun paiement ne doit être effectué pour l'exécution de travaux ou la fourniture de marchandises ou de services, que ce soit en vertu d'un contrat ou non, relativement à toute partie de la fonction publique, sauf si, en plus d'une autre pièce justificative ou d'un certificat

[*Text*]

priate Minister, *or another person* authorized by such Minister certifies (a) . . .

and I will jump down to (b),

(b) where a payment is to be made before the completion of the work, delivery of the goods or rendering of the service, as the case may be, that the payment is in accordance with the contract.

The Chairman: Mr. Clermont.

M. Clermont: Monsieur le président, j'aimerais poursuivre l'argument de M. Robinson. Il a donné l'exemple d'un ministère qui loue un local et qui ne l'occupe pas. Mais, en signant le bail, il s'engage; c'est une dette. C'est comme un particulier qui loue un appartement ou une chambre et qui ne l'occupe pas; il est obligé de payer le loyer, il a une responsabilité, il a un bail.

Le président: Bien sûr. D'ailleurs, avec l'ancienne loi, il fallait payer, même si on ne l'occupait pas. C'est la même chose avec la nouvelle loi.

Monsieur McCutcheon?

• 1055

Mr. McCutcheon: Again to a practical application. If you will bear with me I would like to explain something that happened in my own riding and I wonder how this amendment will affect a situation such as this. In January 1966, I believe, it was announced that the RCMP detachment on Walpole Island would be moved out of the barracks. On February 28 or thereabouts they moved out and in the first week of March after the place had been abandoned and they had moved out, a contractor moved in and laid wall-to-wall carpeting all through the barracks and the only explanation that has come out of it was that it was included in the estimates and if the money was not spent it would be lost to the department.

How does this amendment affect situations such as that? Is it going to have more teeth, less teeth or no teeth?

Mr. Brittain: It would have no effect on that situation, sir.

Mr. McCutcheon: Well, then, would it not be nice if the legal people could arrange a little amendment in here that had some teeth? Could we stand this item and have it rewrit-

[*Interpretation*]

requis, le sous-ministre du ministre compétent, ou *une autre personne* autorisée par ce ministre, certifie

a) . . .

je saute à l'alinéa *b*)

b) si un paiement doit être fait avant le parachèvement des travaux, la livraison des marchandises ou l'exécution des services, selon le cas, que le paiement est conforme au contrat.

Le président: Monsieur Clermont?

Mr. Clermont: Mr. Chairman, I would like to follow up the arguments made by Mr. Robinson. He gave as an example a Department which rents premises and does not move into them. But by singing the leave, it assumes an obligation; it is a debt. It is just like an individual who rents a room, or an apartment—whether he occupies it or not, he has to pay the rent. He has a responsibility. He has a lease.

The Chairman: Of course. Besides, under the old Act one had to pay even if the premises were not occupied. The same applies according to the new Act.

Mr. McCutcheon?

M. McCutcheon: Revenons au domaine de l'application. Si vous me le permettez, j'aimerais simplement expliquer ce qui est arrivé dans ma propre circonscription, et je me demande comment cette modification intéresserait une situation comme celle-là.

En janvier 1966, sauf erreur, on a annoncé que le détachement de la Gendarmerie royale déménagerait des casernes de l'île Walpole; vers le 28 février le déménagement avait lieu. La première semaine de mars, après avoir abandonné les casernes et être parti, un entrepreneur est venu et a placé des tapis mur à mur dans toutes les casernes. La seule explication qu'on a donnée, c'est que cela était compris dans les crédits et, si on ne dépensait pas l'argent, il y aurait perte pour le ministère.

Comment cette modification peut-elle prévoir des situations comme celle-là? Est-ce que la modification sera plus restrictive, moins restrictive, ou sans restriction aucune?

M. Brittain: Cela n'aurait aucun effet sur des situations de ce genre.

M. McCutcheon: Dans ce cas, ne serait-il pas opportun que les hommes de loi puissent apporter une légère modification ici qui imposerait une certaine forme de contrôle? Pour-

[*Texte*]

ten, Mr. Chairman, in some way to cover such situations as that?

Mr. Brittain: This section is not intended to cover this type of situation. This particular section is to make provision for the 30-day period following the end of the fiscal year.

Mr. McCutcheon: Yes. That is right and that is when the carpet went in.

Mr. Brittain: This would be work done in the new year and in that case it would not be payable from the funds that are referred to in this section.

Mr. McCutcheon: Well, that is my understanding. The information that was given to me when I questioned it was that it was in the previous year's estimates and it had to be spent or would lapse.

Mr. Brittain: Well, sir, I just cannot understand that situation because any work that takes place in the new year would be, according to the Act, paid for out of the new year's funds.

Mr. McCutcheon: Yes, but it was in the old year.

Mr. Brittain: Did you not say it was in April?

Mr. McCutcheon: No, I did not.

Mr. Brittain: Oh, I beg your pardon.

Mr. McCutcheon: I said the first week in March.

Mr. Brittain: The first week in March.

Mr. McCutcheon: I am calling on my memory. I may be out a week, I may be out 10 days but certainly it was not in the new fiscal year. It was within the 30 days just prior that we are talking about here.

Mr. Brittain: It sounds to me more a matter of judgment than a matter of . . .

Mr. McCutcheon: Did you say poor judgment?

Mr. Brittain: No, I did not. I said a matter of judgment rather than a matter of legislation.

The Chairman: He did not qualify the word judgment.

Mr. Hales: Well, we come back to this department's spending of estimates rather than letting the money lapse. We as Members

[*Interprétation*]

rions-nous faire réserver l'étude de cet article et le faire rédiger à nouveau de façon à prévoir des cas comme celui-là?

M. Brittain: Je ne pense pas que cet article vise ce genre de situations. Cet article prévoit plutôt une disposition relative à la période de 30 jours qui suit la fin de l'année financière.

M. McCutcheon: Oui, c'est exact, et c'est la période durant laquelle le tapis a été posé.

M. Brittain: Ce travail aurait donc été accompli durant la nouvelle année financière et, dans ce cas, il ne serait pas payable à même les fonds auxquels on se reporte dans cet article.

M. McCutcheon: C'est bien ce que je comprends. Et, d'après les renseignements qu'on a transmis lorsque j'ai posé des questions, on a dit que c'était tiré des crédits de l'année précédente et qu'il fallait dépenser cet argent car autrement les crédits s'annuleraient.

M. Brittain: Je ne puis pas comprendre cette situation, car, tout travail qui est accompli dans la nouvelle année, doit d'après la Loi, être soldé avec les fonds de la nouvelle année.

M. McCutcheon: Oui, mais c'était il y a longtemps.

M. Brittain: N'avez-vous pas dit que c'était en avril?

M. McCutcheon: Non.

M. Brittain: Veuillez m'excuser.

M. McCutcheon: J'ai dit que c'était la première semaine de mars.

M. Brittain: La première semaine de mars.

M. McCutcheon: J'essaie de me rappeler; j'ai pu me tromper d'une semaine ou de 10 jours, mais ce n'était pas dans la nouvelle année financière. C'était durant la période préalable de 30 jours dont nous parlons.

M. Brittain: Cela me semble plus une question de jugement que de. . .

M. McCutcheon: Avez-vous dit faible jugement?

M. Brittain: Non. J'ai dit une question de jugement plus qu'une question de loi.

Le président: Il n'a pas précisé le mot jugement.

M. Hales: Nous en revenons à la question relative aux dépenses par les ministères des sommes prévues au budget, au lieu de laisser

[*Text*]

of Parliament want to see some system devised whereby departments will not go on a spending spree before the end of the year. This goes on all the time and there is nobody in this room who would deny that it does go on. Just because we give the departments money to spend it does not mean, "You have to spend it, boys." I would like to see us give some kind of concession to a deputy minister who would end his year up with some moneys lapsed rather than having spent it all.

An hon. Member: A percentage.

Mr. Hales: But I am a little off the subject here, I know. This paragraph deals with lapsing but it is after the year end and we are a little off base here. But this principle is very important and somewhere in this Financial Administration Act we should have the lapsing business looked after. However, getting back to what Mr. Robinson was on, I do not see how you can have a debt that became due unless payable for work performed, goods received or services rendered.

Mr. Brittain: Contributions payable to a province under a federal-provincial agreement would constitute a debt payable.

Mr. Hales: Well, that is services rendered.

Mr. Brittain: No, it is not rendered to the federal government.

Mr. Hales: Well, I think you have a very good section and wording here in the old Act, Section 35, and I do not know why you want to throw it wide open and take it out. You are going to be vulnerable if you do.

Mr. Robinson: If you mean what you say, then why do you not say what you mean? In my view you are really not adding the necessary words that you want. Your explanatory notes say, that the "amendment would extend the range of payments that may be made under this section".

Mr. Brittain: Yes, because debts...

• 1100

Mr. Robinson: You have already made some establishment of the range of payments under the old section, and what I am suggesting you do is merely add to that rather than delete from it.

[*Interpretation*]

les crédits s'annuler, et nous, en tant que députés, nous voulons qu'il y ait une forme de contrôle pour que les ministères ne se lancent pas dans de folles dépenses avant la fin de l'année financière. Cela se produit tout le temps, et personne ne va le nier. Simplement parce que nous accordons des crédits aux ministères, cela ne veut pas dire: «Vous devez le dépenser, les gars». J'aimerais, pour ma part, que l'on offre une concession quelconque aux sous-ministres qui terminent l'année financière avec des dépenses moindres que celles qui étaient prévues.

Une voix: Un pourcentage.

M. Hales: Je sors un peu du sujet. Ce paragraphe traite de l'annulation, mais après la fin de l'année financière, nous sommes un peu en dehors du sujet. Ce principe qu'on a soulevé est excessivement important, et dans cette Loi sur l'administration financière, nous devrions nous occuper de la question de l'annulation. Cependant si l'on se reporte à ce que disait M. Robinson, je ne vois pas comment on peut avoir une dette qui devienne payable, à moins qu'il y ait des travaux accomplis, des marchandises reçues ou des services rendus.

M. Brittain: Des contributions payables à une provinces en vertu d'une entente fédérale-provinciale constituent une dette payable.

M. Hales: Bien, car ce sont des services rendus.

M. Brittain: Car, ce ne sont pas des services rendus au gouvernement fédéral.

M. Hales: Je crois que l'ancien article 35 est excellent et je ne vois pas pourquoi on veut l'éliminer. Vous vous rendrez vulnérables, si vous le faites.

M. Robinson: Si vous pensez ce que vous dites, pourquoi ne dites-vous pas ce que vous pensez. Pour moi, vous n'ajoutez pas les mots que vous voudriez.

Vos notes explicatives disent que cette «modification étendrait la gamme des paiements qui peuvent être faits en vertu du présent article».

M. Brittain: Oui, parce que les dettes...

M. Robinson: Vous avez déjà établi la gamme des paiements en vertu de l'ancien article. Ce que je propose, c'est que vous y ajoutiez quelque chose plutôt que de supprimer.

[*Texte*]

Mr. Brittain: Yes. My response would be that the changes recognize that there are debts other than debts for the three items that are mentioned in the current act.

Mr. Hales: Well, then, why not leave this in and add to it to cover those few circumstances?

Mr. Brittain: Debts due covers all the circumstances that exist in the present act.

Mr. Hales: I am not a lawyer but I do not think it does. I will let some of my legal friends rule on that one.

Mr. Robinson: I think when you use the term "a debt that became due" and so on you have to define it legally. It may require a legal opinion to determine whether it actually is a debt or not. At least you described what you meant by it before, that the government is only being asked to pay under the previous section if there is work performed, if there are goods received or if there are services rendered. I am suggesting to you, in the absence of these three, that you still want to pay for something. What are you going to pay for?

Mr. Brittain: As I say, we may pay for a contribution payable under a federal-provincial agreement that was due. We may pay progress payments that were due on signing, and so far as legal wording is concerned, Mr. Chairman, I point out that all this was drafted in the Department of Justice.

Mr. Hales: Well, we have seen those before too.

The Chairman: We are quite sure of that.

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): Mr. Chairman, I am going to suggest that the example being used may not be right. The payments made to the provinces are statutory. They are not an appropriation under the estimates; they are a statutory obligation. I do not see how you can say that they are appropriations, as normally defined by Parliament, as being made under a consideration of the estimates. I am just wondering whether the example is quite right.

Mr. Brittain: All I can say to that point, Mr. Chairman, is that if an account comes in for cheque issue, this will be operative. Whether one considers it a debt because it is a statutory provision...

[*Interprétation*]

M. Brittain: Les modifications reconnaissent qu'il y a d'autres dettes que les dettes au chapitre des trois articles mentionnés dans la loi qui existe.

M. Hales: Alors, pourquoi ne pas les laisser et y ajouter les modifications au sujet de certaines circonstances.

M. Brittain: Mais les dettes payables couvrent les circonstances qui existent dans le texte actuel de la loi.

M. Hales: Je ne suis pas avocat mais je pense que ce n'est pas applicable à toutes les circonstances. Je laisse mes confrères de la profession décider là-dessus.

M. Robinson: Je pense que lorsque vous utilisez l'expression «une dette qui était devenue payable» et autre; il faut les définir sur le plan juridique. Il faut peut-être un avocat pour déterminer si c'est bien une dette ou non. Au moins vous avez expliqué ce que vous vouliez dire avant, que le gouvernement doit payer en vertu de l'article précédent, si les travaux sont accomplis, les marchandises reçues ou les services rendus. En l'absence de ces trois conditions, vous voulez encore payer quelque chose.

M. Brittain: Nous pouvons payer pour une contribution payable en vertu d'un accord fédéral-provincial. Nous pouvons payer des acomptes à valoir qui étaient dus en vertu d'une signature et ainsi de suite, en ce qui concerne les termes juridiques. J'aimerais souligner que le texte a été rédigé au ministère de la Justice.

M. Hales: Oh, nous les avons déjà vus.

Le président: J'en suis convaincu.

M. Lambert (Edmonton-Ouest): Les exemples que l'on a cités n'étaient peut-être pas justes. Les paiements faits aux provinces sont des paiements statutaires. Ils ne sont pas des crédits accordés en vertu des prévisions budgétaires. Il s'agit plutôt d'une responsabilité statutaire. Je ne sais pas comment vous pouvez dire qu'il s'agit de crédits tels que définis généralement par le Parlement et accordés à la suite d'un examen des prévisions budgétaires. Je me demande si l'exemple est pertinent.

M. Brittain: Tout ce que je peux y répondre, monsieur le président, c'est lorsqu'un compte vous parvient en vue de l'émission d'un chèque, cela sera appliqué. Qu'on considère ou non que c'est une dette parce que c'est une disposition statutaire...

[*Text*]

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): Mr. Chairman, I have raised a point and my interpretation of what an appropriation is may be wrong. As we know, payments to the provinces are by way of statute. They are statutory obligations in the same way they will be for Medicare, as they are for the Hospital Insurance and Diagnostic Services Act and others that we may consider, and whether they are in the true sense an appropriation I leave open to question at the present time, but I would like to see clarification of that point. I also have some qualms about this particular section.

Mr. Robinson: Mr. Chairman, I still have not had my one question answered to my satisfaction. It is my understanding that if there is a debt there must have been a benefit. The way this new section reads it means there can be a debt and no benefit. You are giving something for nothing. You receive nothing in any way, shape or form, and yet you are being asked to pay for it.

Mr. Brittain: In the case of a writer's fee for example.

Mr. Robinson: Perhaps a writer's fee or a deposit on something when you do not go on with the purchase and you lose your deposit or a lease, as I suggested to you, where you may have made a deposit and you may have to pay all the rental for perhaps a year or two years and never move into the building. Under the old section you could not make such a payment according to this clause as I see it.

Mr. Brittain: Section 32, as I pointed, out makes provision:

> "(a) that the work has been performed, the goods supplied or the service rendered, as the case may be, and that the price charged is according to contract, or if not specified by contract, is reasonable, or
>
> (b) where a payment is to be made before the completion of the work, delivery of the goods or rendering of the service, as the case may be, that the payment is in accordance with the contract."

• 1105

so we would have entered into a contract.

The Chairman: Does that Section stay?

Mr. Brittain: That Section stays.

The Chairman: We will stand Clause 13.

On clause 14.

[*Interpretation*]

M. Lambert (Edmonton-Ouest): J'ai soulevé une question mais mon interprétation d'un crédit n'est peut-être pas exacte, étant donné que les paiements aux provinces se font en vertu d'un principe statutaire. Ce sont des responsabilités statutaires de la même manière que pour l'assurance frais médicaux, pour la Loi sur l'assurance-hospitalisation et les services diagnostiques et autres que nous pourrions étudier, et qu'ils soient ou non des crédits dans le vrai sens du terme. Je laisse la question à discussion, mais j'aimerais qu'on éclaire ce point. Moi aussi, j'ai certaines réserves quant à cet article.

M. Robinson: Monsieur le président, on n'a pas répondu à la question que j'ai posée. D'après ce que je comprends, s'il y a une dette, il y a certainement dû y avoir bénéfice. Ici, il me semble qu'il puisse y avoir une dette sans qu'il y ait de bénéfices. Vous donnez quelque chose, vous n'en retirez rien en échange, et on vous demande de payer.

M. Brittain: Dans le cas des émoluments à un écrivain, par exemple.

M. Robinson: Peut-être les honoraires d'un écrivain ou un dépôt sur quelque chose dont vous ne complétez pas l'achat et où vous perdez le dépôt, ou un bail, comme je l'ai déjà indiqué, où vous pouvez avoir donné un dépôt et où vous devez payer tout le loyer pour un an ou deux et ne jamais emménager dans l'édifice. En vertu de l'ancien article, vous ne pouviez pas, selon moi, faire un tel paiement conformément à l'article.

M. Brittain: Comme je l'ai déjà indiqué, l'article 32 stipule:

> «*a*) que les travaux ont été accomplis, les matières fournies ou les services rendus, selon le cas, et que le prix exigé est conforme au contrat ou, si le prix n'est pas spécifié par contrat, qu'il est raisonnable; ou
>
> *b*) si un paiement doit être fait avant le parachèvement des travaux, la livraison des marchandises ou l'exécution des services, selon le cas, que le paiement est conforme au contrat.»

Nous aurions ainsi passé un contrat.

Le président: L'article reste-t-il en vigueur?

M. Brittain: L'article reste en vigueur.

Le président: L'article 13 est réservé.

Sur l'article 14.

[*Texte*]

Mr. Robinson: There is only one question I have, Mr. Chairman, on Clause 14. I notice the explanatory note reads:

> ...This amendment would delete reference to the Comptroller without designating any particular Minister or official in his stead.

How does this really help us? How is this amendment of any benefit if this is the result?

Mr. Brittain: I might start off, Mr. Chairman, by saying the object of the amendment is to substitute the Treasury Board for the Comptroller. The office of the Comptroller disappears and it remains necessary that an authority be designated to regulate the repayment period for advances. The Treasury Board now has the regulatory authority respecting the making of accountable advaces, and it seems to be the appropriate agency to control the conditions governing repayment. Under the present Act the Comptroller is responsible for both the issue and the actual recovery, and under the proposed amendment to Section 36 of the Act the Deputy Head would be authorized to make an advance and will be, of course, responsible for making all the initial efforts to recover an advance where recovery has not been made. If this fails, he will have the responsibility to authorize the Receiver General to recover the amount from any other moneys that are payable to the person concerned.

The Chairman: Are there any other questions concerning Clause 14?

On Clause 15.

Mr. Hales: I have a question, Mr. Chairman. I understand that the old Act spelled out how public property and stores were to be accounted for and now Treasury Board, by prescribing regulations, is going to govern the custody and control of public property. That is the main difference. The old Act spelled out who had to do it, how, and so on, but now we are leaving it to Treasury Board to do it by means of regulations. Is that right?

Mr. Brittain: The old part (5), Public Stores, did not deal with all of the needs of modern operations. The new Section 57, I might start off by saying, is present Section 97 as amended, as explained in explanatory notes. The new Section 58 requires each deputy head to maintain adequate records in relation to public property for which the department is responsible and to comply, as you say, with regulations of the Treasury Board governing the custody and control of

[*Interprétation*]

M. Robinson: Une question sur l'article 14, je vous prie. Je remarque que les notes explicatives se lisent:

> Cette modification supprimerait l'allusion au contrôleur sans désigner un ministre ou un fonctionnaire particulier à sa place.

Comment cela nous est-il avantageux?

M. Brittain: Le but de cette modification est de substituer «Conseil du Trésor» pour «contrôleur». Le poste de contrôleur disparaît mais il reste nécessaire qu'une compétence soit désignée pour régler la période de remboursement des avances. Le Conseil du Trésor a actuellement le pouvoir de réglementation pour faire les avances comptables et il semble être l'organisme tout désigné pour contrôler les conditions qui gouvernent le remboursement.

En vertu de la loi actuelle, le contrôleur est tenu responsable de l'émission et du recouvrement actuel et, en vertu de la modification proposée de l'article 36 de la loi, le chef adjoint sera autorisé à payer une avance et sera naturellement chargé de recouvrer une avance si cela n'a pas été fait. S'il échoue, il sera chargé d'autoriser le receveur général de recouvrer les montants de toutes les sommes payables à la personne en cause.

Le président: Y a-t-il d'autres questions concernant l'article 14?

Sur l'article 15.

M. Hales: Monsieur le président, je crois que l'ancienne loi indiquait comment les biens publics et les magasins devaient être attribuées au Conseil du Trésor, par prescrivant des règlements, va régir la garde et le contrôle des biens publics. Voilà la grande différence. Dans l'ancienne loi, on stipulait qui devait s'en occuper, comment et ainsi de suite, mais maintenant nous laissons tout au Conseil du Trésor qui devra agir en faisant voter des règlements. Est-ce exact?

M. Brittain: L'ancienne partie 5, Magasins publics, n'avait pas trait à tous les besoins modernes. Le nouvel article 57 est le présent article 97 tel que modifié, tel qu'on l'indique dans les notes explicatives. Le nouvel article 58 exige que le sous-chef de chaque ministère ou département tienne des registres convenables ayant trait aux biens publics dont le ministère ou le département est responsable et qu'il se conforme aux règlements du Conseil du Trésor régissant la garde et le contrôle

[*Text*]

public property. The principal object is to make provision in the Act to ensure that responsibility will be assigned for the management of all public property in such manner that there are appropriate devisions between the Governor in Council, the Treasury Board and the department.

Mr. Hales: If Treasury Board were lax in its duty or slipshod in its operations government property would not be well controlled because it is not laid down in the statute.

Mr. Brittain: As the statute stands now.

Mr. Hales: Right.

Mr. Brittain: That is correct.

The Chairman: Are there any other questions regarding this Clause?

• 1110

Mr. Hales: Yes, one other thing comes in here. Parliament has granted authority to various departments for a revolving fund to operate within the department to buy and sell various things. If section 58 is out, is Parliament still going to have the right to grant revolving funds to these departments?

Mr. Brittain: Yes, it certainly is.

Mr. Hales: We will still have that right?

Mr. Brittain: Yes.

Mr. Hales: There will be no change in the operation of the revolving funds?

Mr. Brittain: When the particular section on revolving funds was written in the present Act, it was concerned with revolving funds for stores operations, and since the Glassco Commission urged much greater use of revolving funds for different purposes, for manufacturing and trading type operations, then this section ceases to be satisfactory to cover anything more than what was originally conceived of when that section was written.

Mr. Hales: How do we know that parliament is still going to authorize the setting up of revolving funds if Section 58 is taken out?

Mr. Brittain: No funds can be made available without parliamentary appropriation.

Mr. Hales: I just cannot get this through my head. Section 58, in the explanatory notes opposite page 9 says:

> Subject to this section, where Parliament has authorized a department to

[*Interpretation*]

des biens publics. Le but principal est de permettre de prendre des dispositions dans la loi pour s'assurer que l'on s'occupera de la gestion des biens publics de telle sorte qu'il y ait des divisions appropriées entre le gouverneur en conseil, le conseil du Trésor et le ministère.

M. Hales: Si la gestion du conseil du Trésor était relâchée, les biens publics ne seraient pas bien contrôlés parce que ce n'est pas stipulé dans la loi.

M. Brittain: Telle qu'elle existe actuellement.

M. Hales: Oui.

M. Brittain: C'est bien.

Le président: Y a-t-il d'autres questions concernant cet article?

M. Hales: Oui. Le Parlement a autorisé divers ministères à maintenir une caisse automatiquement renouvelable aux fins d'acheter et de vendre divers articles. Si l'on supprime l'article 5, le Parlement aura-t-il encore le droit d'autoriser des caisses automatiquement renouvelables à ces ministères?

M. Brittain: Oui, il l'aura.

M. Hales: Nous conservons ce droit?

M. Brittain: Oui.

M. Hales: Il n'y aura aucun changement dans le maintien d'une caisse automatiquement renouvelable.

M. Brittain: Lorsqu'on a inséré dans la loi actuelle un article particulier sur les caisses automatiquement renouvelables, on pensait aux caisses d'exploitation des magasins. Vu que la commission Glassco a proposé qu'on utilise beaucoup plus de ces genres de fonds pour des processus de manufacture, etc., l'ancienne Loi n'était donc pas utile lorsqu'on essayait de voir à la caisse automatiquement renouvelable.

M. Hales: Comment savoir si le Parlement va encore autoriser la création d'une caisse renouvelable si on supprime l'article 58?

M. Brittain: Mais il ne peut pas y avoir de caisse sans subsides du Parlement.

M. Hales: Je ne comprends pas cela. L'article 58, dans les notes explicatives, dit:

> Sous réserve du présent article, lorsque le Parlement a autorisé un département à

[*Texte*]

operate a revolving fund for the purpose of acquiring and managing stores...

and so on. Now that is coming out, but there are still opportunities to set up revolving funds.

Mr. Brittain: Yes, but as I say, no revolving fund can be set up except with the authority of parliament—it just cannot be.

The Chairman: Are there any other questions on Clause 15?

On Clause 16.

Mr. Hales: Not other than the one I mentioned at the last meeting, that the Receiver General is now going to be the Minister of Supplies and Services and is not going to be the Minister of Finance or President of the Treasury Board. I again raise my objection to that transfer.

The Chairman: Are there any other questions regarding Clause 16?

On Clause 17.

Mr. Robinson: Could we have a broader explanation of Clause 17 than is provided in the explanatory notes?

Mr. Brittain: Mr. Chairman, the inclusion of the new Part VIIIB concerns assignment of debts due to the Crown under payment bonds. There are labour and material payment bonds which are used as an alternative to a security deposit, and they are required to be purchased by private contractors who enter into government contracts. These are designed to protect the subcontractors and suppliers in the event of the bankruptcy of the prime contractor.

The object of the amendment is to give the Crown legislative authority to assign to the claimants, whose interests are protected by these bonds, the Crown's right to sue the bonding company in the event that payments due to the claimant have not been made by either the prime contractor or the bonding company.

Mr. Robinson: Can I assume from this that it is a situation where the Crown has required a performance bond rather than taking a deposit? In other words, the contractor may be entering into a contract with the Crown that would normally require a deposit in cash of, say, $100,000 and now instead of taking the deposit in cash the Crown will take a performance bond...

Mr. Brittain: A labour and material payment bond.

[*Interprétation*]

maintenir une caisse automatiquement renouvelable aux fins d'acquérir et d'administrer des approvisionnements...

Nous supprimons cet article, mais on pourra toujours établir une caisse automatiquement renouvelable.

M. Brittain: Mais aucune caisse automatiquement renouvelable ne peut être établie sans l'autorisation du Parlement.

Le président: Y a-t-il d'autres questions quant à l'article 15? Des questions quant à l'article 16?

M. Hales: Sauf celle que j'ai posée, à la dernière réunion, à savoir que le Receveur général sera désormais le ministre des approvisionnements et services, et non le ministre des Finances, ni le président du Conseil du Trésor. Je m'oppose encore à ce transfert de responsabilités.

Le président: D'autres questions quant à l'article 16?

Article 17.

M. Robinson: Voulez-vous nous donner une explication de l'article 17, une explication plus complète que celle qu'on trouve dans les notes explicatives.

M. Brittain: Monsieur le président, l'inclusion de la nouvelle partie VIII B a trait à la cession de dettes contractées à l'égard de la Couronne en vertu de cautions de paiements qui sont utilisés comme dépôts de garantie éventuels et doivent être achetés par les entrepreneurs privés qui signent des contrats avec le gouvernement. Ils sont destinés à protéger les sous-traitants et les fournisseurs, en cas de faillite de l'entrepreneur principal.

Le but de la modification est de donner à la Couronne l'autorisation législative de céder aux demandeurs, dont les intérêts sont protégés par les cautions, le droit de la Couronne de poursuivre la compagnie qui a émis les cautions si les paiements dus aux demandeurs n'ont pas été exécutés, ni par l'entrepreneur principal, ni par la compagnie en question.

M. Robinson: Est-ce que je peux en conclure qu'il y a une situation où la Couronne a requis une caution d'exécution plutôt que d'accepter un dépôt? Autrement dit, l'entrepreneur peut signer un contrat avec la Couronne où il leur faudrait un dépôt en argent de, disons, $100,000, et au lieu d'accepter le dépôt sous forme d'argent, on accepterait une caution d'exécution...

M. Brittain: Une caution de paiement des frais de main-d'œuvre et de matériaux.

[*Text*]

Mr. Robinson: ...from some lending institution.

Mr. Brittain: Right.

• 1115

Mr. Robinson: But there is nothing to indicate what the terms of reference are or what kind of lending institution you would be prepared to accept the bond from. You have mentioned that there may be the possibility of suing the bonding company, if necessary, to protect the subcontractors. I am wondering whether this should not be tied up a little tighter so that the bond would have to be obtained from a bonding company or a bank under bank letters of reference that would be acceptable to the Department?

Mr. Brittain: This is the case, sir. The Financial Administration Act does not encompass the total provisions with respect to entry into contracts; rather, there is in addition to government contract regulations a list of registered bonding companies from which the contractors must purchase the bonds. There very definitely is control over the situation that you describe; it is not just any company that is prepared to sell bonds. There is control over these companies and if these companies do not perform there are means for rectifying that situation—but this is not covered in the Act.

Mr. Robinson: Was it not customary in the past that the funds were probably deposited and if necessary, invested and there was interest payable or money received by the government while they were holding the deposit?

Mr. Brittain: Well, we are talking now about security deposits rather than labour and material payment bonds.

Mr. Robinson: Well, is the labour and material payment bond not to take the place of the security deposit?

Mr. Brittain: It can be either or both, depending on the contract.

Mr. Robinson: Is it not fair to say that if actual cash is paid at the time as a deposit and it is held for some period of time by the government there is a revenue obtained by the government, because they have cash, but there is no revenue obtained by the government if they are holding a bond?

Mr. Brittain: This clause does not deal with this aspect of the situation, Mr. Chairman,

[*Interpretation*]

M. Robinson: ... d'une institution de prêt.

M. Brittain: En effet.

M. Robinson: Mais il n'y a aucune indication quant à l'institution de prêt de qui vous seriez disposés à accepter la caution. Vous dites qu'il y a possibilité d'entamer une action judiciaire contre la compagnie qui a émis la caution de paiement, pour protéger les sous-traitants, si nécessaire. Il me semble que la rédaction devrait être plus juste. Est-ce qu'il ne faudrait pas obtenir cette caution de paiement d'une compagnie caution ou d'une banque, en vertu de lettres de référence acceptables au ministère?

M. Brittain: Tel est le cas, monsieur. La Loi sur l'administration financière n'englobe pas toutes les dispositions quant aux contrats. Non seulement y a-t-il les règlements qui gouvernent les contrats du gouvernement, il y a, outre cela, une liste des compagnies de qui l'on accepte des cautions de paiement et qui sont inscrites au registre. Et ces entreprises vendent les cautions aux entrepreneurs. Cette situation est contrôlée; ce n'est pas toutes les sociétés qui sont disposées à vendre de ces cautions de paiement. Si ces sociétés ne remplissent pas leurs devoirs, il y a moyen de rectifier la situation, mais la Loi ne prévoit pas cela.

M. Robinson: Mais dans le passé, est-ce que les fonds reçus n'ont pas été déposés, et n'y a-t-il pas eu un intérêt accru sur ces fonds, ou l'argent reçu par le gouvernement, pendant que les fonds étaient en dépôt?

M. Brittain: Nous parlons maintenant des dépôts de garantie, plutôt que des cautions de paiement des frais de main-d'œuvre et de matériaux.

M. Robinson: Mais, est-ce que ces cautions ne vont pas remplacer les dépôts de garantie?

M. Brittain: Ce peut être l'un ou l'autre. Cela dépend du contrat.

M. Robinson: N'est-il pas juste de dire que si l'argent est versé au moment du dépôt, et retenu par le gouvernement, celui-ci obtient un revenu grâce aux intérêts accrus? Mais il n'y a pas d'intérêts accrus lorsque le gouvernement détient une caution de paiment?

M. Brittain: Cet article n'a pas trait à cet aspect de la situation, monsieur le président.

[*Texte*]

but as I recall my own experience, not in the field of contracting but as an administrator in the Department, the security deposit which is given by a contractor is placed in the vault.

I was just checking this with our Financial Management Advisor and, as far as he is aware, this is the practice. He confirms what I said—that the labour and material payment bonds are placed in the vault.

Mr. Robinson: But if you get cash it is placed in the bank.

Mr. Brittain: We do not get cash—if you mean straight cash.

Mr. Robinson: I see.

Mr. Hales: Mr. Chairman, I apologize, but I would like to turn back just over the page. Section 60(1) is being removed from the old Act. The old Act now reads:

> The appropriate Minister may from time to time, but not less frequently than once in every five years, constitute a board of survey to enquire into the state of the stores under the management of a department.

If that is removed, how will this be done and by whom?

Mr. Brittain: The present practice has changed somewhat in the management of departmental operations since this portion of the Act was written. In point of fact the management of stores now is such that there is continuous review; it does not happen once every five years. There is a continuous review carried on which is built into the system of stores management. There is also the operational audit group which is checking on the work that is being done by the people who are engaged in this activity. So whereas previously there was requirement for a board of survey to be held once in every five years, this is now a continuous process.

Mr. Hales: Then moving on to Section 61, it says:

> The Comptroller may examine records, accounts and procedures respecting stores and materials...

• 1120

The Chairman: The previous Section 61?

Mr. Hales: Yes. Now there is no comptroller, so this would be done by whom?

Mr. Brittain: If this service is desired by a department, as the Minister explained yesterday, much of the former comptroller's organi-

[*Interprétation*]

Mais d'après ma propre expérience, non comme entrepreneur, mais à titre de fonctionnaire, ce cautionnement est placé en dépôt dans une banque.

J'ai vérifié auprès de notre conseiller en gestion financière et, pour autant qu'il sache, c'est là la pratique. Il confirme ce qu'il a dit, à savoir que les cautions de paiement des frais de main-d'œuvre et de matériaux sont placées dans le coffre-fort de la banque.

M. Robinson: Mais les espèces sont placées dans la banque.

M. Brittain: Nous n'avons pas d'espèces.

M. Robinson: Je vois.

M. Hales: Monsieur le président, je m'excuse, mais je voudrais revenir à l'article 60 (1) qui est supprimé de l'ancienne Loi qui dit maintenant:

> Le ministre compétent peut, à l'occasion, mais au moins une fois tous les cinq ans, constituer une commission d'inspection pour examiner l'état des approvisionnements dont un département a la gestion.

Si l'on supprime cet article, comment cela se fera-t-il, et par qui?

M. Brittain: La pratique a quelque peu changé dans la gérance des inventaires des approvisionnements, depuis que cette ancienne Loi fut rédigée. Le fait est que la gérance des approvisionnements permet qu'il n'y ait pas inventaire à tous les cinq ans, mais il y a un inventaire continu. Il y a également un groupe de vérification qui vérifie les travaux faits par les gens qui s'occupent de ces responsabilités. Autrefois, on obligeait une commission de revue à se réunir une fois à tous les cinq ans. L'inventaire se fait continuellement, maintenant.

M. Hales: L'article 61 dit:

> Le contrôleur peut examiner les registres, comptes et procédures ayant trait aux approvisionnements et matériaux...

Le président: L'ancien article 61?

M. Hales: Oui. Maintenant qu'il n'y a plus de contrôleur, qui va faire cela?

M. Brittain: Si l'on désire que ce service soit rendu à un ministère, l'ancienne organisation du contrôleur, ainsi que le ministre l'a

[*Text*]

zation is moving into the Department of Supply and Services and the Services side is, in effect, being built around the present comptroller's organization, so he retains the capability to perform this Service, and his act provides that this service is available to departments.

Mr. Hales: Let us take it one step further. Suppose in this report there is a loss, or discrepancy, in stores. Will we still be able to find this listed in the Public Accounts, Volume II?

Mr. Brittain: Yes, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. Hales: There will be no change in that.

Mr. Brittain: No change.

The Chairman: Are there further questions on Clause 16?

Mr. Hales: Yes, on page 11; I do not understand proposed section 64:

> 64. (1) A report, called the Public Accounts, *shall be prepared by the Receiver General for each fiscal year*, and shall be laid before the House of Commons by the Minister.

Who is the Minister?

Mr. Brittain: The Minister in the Financial Administration Act is the Minister of Finance.

Mr. Hales: This is on policy, and perhaps I should not be asking it, but here we have the Minister of Finance going to present the books and the accounts of Canada before the House, but the Minister of supplies and services is the man who looks after them.

Mr. Brittain: The Receiver General.

Mr. Hales: The Receiver General; and that is one and the same person. Why would not the Receiver General lay the accounts before the House?

Mr. Brittain: Rather than the Minister of Finance?

Mr. Hales: Yes.

Mr. Brittain: There is no change.

Mr. Hales: There is a change. The Minister of Finance is going to lay the Public Accounts before the House of Commons.

Mr. Brittain: Yes; as he always has done.

[*Interpretation*]

expliqué hier, sera transférée au ministère des Approvisionnements et Services, et de fait, le ministère des Approvisionnements et Services se base sur les anciennes fonctions du contrôleur. Le service sera disponible au ministère, grâce à ce nouveau ministère.

M. Hales: Allons une étape plus loin. Supposons que dans ce rapport, il y ait une perte ou une erreur. Pourrons-nous la trouver dans les comptes publics, volume II?

M. Brittain: Oui, monsieur le président.

M. Hales: Il n'y aura pas de changements là-dedans?

M. Brittain: Pas de changement.

Le président: Y a-t-il d'autres questions sur l'article 16?

M. Hales: Oui, à la page 11. Je ne comprends pas l'article 64.

> 64. (1) Un rapport appelé «comptes publics» doit être préparé par le receveur *général pour chaque année financière et* doit être déposé devant la Chambre des communes par le ministre...

Qui est le ministre?

M. Brittain: Le ministre dans la Loi sur l'administration financière est le ministre des Finances.

M. Hales: C'est une question de politique, et je ne devrais peut-être pas la poser, mais le ministre des Finances doit déposer les livres de comptes publics, les soumettre à la Chambre, alors que c'est le ministre des Approvisionnements et Services qui s'occupe de la question.

M. Brittain: Le Receveur général.

M. Hales: Le receveur général; et c'est une seule et même personne. Pourquoi le receveur général ne déposerait-il pas les comptes devant la Chambre?

M. Brittain: Plutôt que le ministre des Finances?

M. Hales: Oui.

M. Brittain: C'est la même chose.

M. Hales: Non ce n'est pas la même chose. C'est le ministre des finances qui va présenter les comptes publics à la Chambre.

M. Brittain: Oui, comme il a toujours fait.

[*Texte*]

Mr. Hales: But why would not the Receiver General lay them before the House? He is the man in charge of them.

Mr. Brittain: No, sir, he is not the man in charge of them. The man in charge of the Public Accounts...

Mr. Hales: We are talking about the big Blue Book.

Mr. Brittain: Yes, sir. The Public Accounts are prepared under the direction of the Minister of Finance, who also lays the Public Accounts before the House. In the former legislation, which I believe you may be looking at, you will note that no provision is made about who will compile the accounts. It merely states that the Minister shall lay these accounts before the House.

In point of fact, the Comptroller of the Treasury has done the compilation work, the preparation work—brought them together, and so on—in accordance with the directions of the Minister of Finance, although this is not mentioned in the current act, and the Minister of Finance lays them before the House. Thus, there is no change. The Minister of Finance directs the form of the accounts and the Receiver General prepares the accounts, He has the computers and the other facilities that are required for compilation. And this continues.

Mr. Hales: There is no change, then?

Mr. Brittain: There is a change in the fact that the comptroller, who did the work for the Minister of Finance in the past—the office of the Comptroller is abolished.

Mr. Hales: Yes.

Mr. Brittain: The facilities which were required to prepare the Public Accounts...

Mr. Hales: Let us get this straight. The Public Accounts—the big Blue Book—will be prepared by the Receiver General, who is the Minister of supplies and services, for each fiscal year, and they shall be laid before the House of Commons by the Minister of Finance?

Mr. Brittain: That is correct.

Mr. Hales: All right; we have two ministers where I think there should be one. However, that is policy, so skip it.

The Chairman: Are there any questions on Clause 17?

[*Interprétation*]

M. Hales: Mais pourquoi le Receveur général ne les déposerait-il pas. Il en est responsable?

M. Brittain: Non monsieur, il n'en est pas responsable. Celui qui est responsable des comptes publics ...

M. Hales: Nous parlons du grand livre bleu?

M. Brittain: Oui, monsieur. Les comptes publics sont préparés sous la direction du ministre des Finances qui les présente également à la Chambre des communes. Sous l'ancienne loi, qui est sans doute celle dont vous parlez, vous noterez qu'il n'y a aucune disposition concernant la personne qui doit rédiger les comptes. On dit simplement que le ministre déposera ces comptes devant la Chambre. En fait, le contrôleur du Trésor fait le travail de compilation, le travail de préparation, l'assemblage, etc... selon les directives du ministre des Finances, bien que ceci ne figure pas dans la présente Loi, puis le ministre des Finances les présente devant la Chambre. Il n'y a aucun changement donc. Le ministre des Finances décide de la forme de rédaction des comptes. Le Receveur général, qui dispose des ordinateurs et autres facilités, prépare les comptes.

M. Hales: Il n'y a aucun changement, donc?

M. Brittain: Il y a un changement dans le sens que le poste du contrôleur qui faisait le travail pour le ministre des Finances, est supprimé.

M. Hales: Oui.

M. Brittain: Les services du contrôleur qui étaient requis pour la rédaction des comptes publics ...

M. Hales: Résumons. Les comptes publics, c'est-à-dire le grand livre bleu, seront rédigés par le Receveur général qui est ministre des Approvisionnements et Services pour chaque année fiscale? Et le livre sera déposé devant la Chambre par le ministre des Finances?

M. Brittain: Exact.

M. Hales: Parfait. Nous avons donc deux ministre où il ne devrait y en avoir qu'un. Mais c'est une question de politique, donc passons.

Le président: D'autres questions quant à l'article 17?

[*Text*]

Mr. Hales: Mr. Chairman, before you move on to Part VIIIB I cannot help but bring to the attention of the Committee that Part VII of the Financial Administration Act has not been amended, as was recommended by the Public Accounts Committee, as you will recall, Mr. Chairman. We made various reports to the House about this section, which deals with the Auditor General. No changes or amendments have been made, and I regret that. It deals with his salary. I think the only other person whose salary is paid by legislation is Mr. Castonguay who looks after the constituencies.

The salary of the Auditor General is shown as $30,000 per annum, and I think the Deputy Minister of Finance gets $40,000. I do not think it is right that our Auditor General should be asked to work for a salary lower than that paid to a deputy minister of finance, or any other deputy minister.

I regret that Part VII was not amended, and I bring it to the attention of the Committee. The Public Accounts Committee has dealt with this at great length. We even went so far as to suggest a separate act dealing with the Auditor General and his works and other matters. I will not, however, take the time of the Committee to enlarge on it any further.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

The Chairman: Are there any further questions on Clause 17?

We now come to Clauses 18, 19 and 20.

Gentlemen, as you have probably noticed, we are working without a quorum, and we have been doing so for quite a while now. We have reached the calling of the votes, but as we have no quorum I cannot call them. Our only alternative is to adjourn and see if we can complete the bill at our next sitting. It would be illegal to vote on the clauses when we do not have a quorum.

Mr. McCutcheon: That is why I came back, Mr. Chairman.

The Chairman: And it was very nice of you to come back, Mr. McCutcheon. But you will see there are now only four, and with myself, that is five.

Mr. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): I have a question in relation to this. We discussed it briefly on one of the clauses, but it does not matter.

As you are aware, we discussed the supplementary estimates some little time ago, and we are now discussing a bill which will, we hope, make the government administration

[*Interpretation*]

M. Hales: Monsieur le président, avant de passer à la partie VIIIB, je voudrais porter à l'attention du Comité que la partie VII de la Loi sur l'administration financière n'a pas été modifiée comme l'avait réclamé le comité des comptes publics, comme vous vous en souvenez, monsieur le président. Nous avons fait plusieurs rapports à la Chambre sur cette section qui traite de l'auditeur général. Aucun changement ni modification, n'a été fait et je le regrette. Cela concerne le salaire de l'auditeur général. Je pense que la seule personne dont le traitement soit fixé par la Loi est M. Castonguay, qui s'occupe des circonscriptions. Le traitement de l'auditeur général est de 30,000 par année et je pense que le sous-ministre des Finances reçoit 40,000. Je trouve injuste que notre auditeur général ait un traitement moins élevé que le sous-ministre des Finances ou tout autre sous-ministre.

Je regrette que cette partie VII n'ait pas été modifiée, je porte ceci à l'attention du Comité. Le comité des comptes publics en a discuté très longuement. Nous avons même proposé une loi séparée qui détaillerait le travail de l'auditeur général je ne détaillerai pas plus mes recommandations. Merci monsieur le président.

Le président: D'autres questions sur l'article 17? Nous passons maintenant aux articles 18, 19 et 20. Messieurs, vous avez probablement remarqué que nous travaillons sans quorum. Nous avons travaillé sans quorum depuis quelque temps. Nous en sommes maintenant au vote. Puisque nous n'avons pas quorum, je ne peux pas demander le vote. Donc il me semble que la seule possibilité soit d'ajourner. Nous essayerons de terminer l'étude de ce projet de loi à la prochaine séance. N'ayant pas le quorum, notre vote serait illégal.

M. McCutcheon: C'est pour cela que je suis revenu, monsieur le président.

Le président: C'est très aimable à vous d'être revenu, monsieur McCutcheon, mais comme vous pouvez le constater nous ne sommes toujours que cinq, moi compris.

M. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): A cet égard, j'ai une question à poser. Nous en avons déjà discuté, mais ça n'a pas d'importance. Comme vous le savez, nous avons discuté le budget supplémentaire il y a quelques temps, nous discutons maintenant un projet de Loi qui permettra, nous l'espérons, une gestion financière plus efficace. J'ai été extrê-

[*Texte*]

more efficient. I was quite perturbed at the number of $1 votes within departments.

I will use the Department of Agriculture as an example, because I am more familiar with it. Could not something be written into the Financial Administration Act about this?

In the case of the Department of Agriculture $3 million or so was not expended because they did not need as much money for the subsidy to feed grains in eastern Canada. Could not some provision be put in the Act that this money has to go back to the Treasury and the department has to re-apply, rather than just transferring it from one vote to the other?

Had only one or two departments been involved I would have said, "All right; obviously they had reason to spend this money", but it happens so often I have a suspicion that the feeling is "We have this money. Let us spend it. As a representative of the taxpayer it does not leave me with a very good feeling, and I would like to see something done in this area.

If moneys that are allocated are not spent they should go back into Treasury and the Minister should then have to reapply for anything additional.

• 1130

Perhaps this is impractical, and it might mean, of course, that they would make sure it was all spent—I do not know. Perhaps that is a wrong assessment.

I could see quite a large sum of money in the supplementary estimates that might have gone back into the Treasury. Perhaps some of it was necessary, and it was obvious to me that some of it was, for some reason or other, but I think in some instances it was a matter of "Let us do this project because we have the money. We will transfer it from this particular fund that under-spent."

Mr. Brittain: This is a subject which, of course, is not directly relevant to this bill as you have indicated, sir, and one that raises many points. The specific points you raise concerning the Department of Agriculture are ones I am not familiar with because it is not my branch that deals with the Estimates, so I cannot speak specifically to the point of why certain amounts are provided and the particular purposes for which money is used. I think this is a matter which could very well be raised with the President of Treasury Board in another context, but I do not feel that it relates to this particular Bill.

[*Interprétation*]

mement gêné de voir tous ces votes de 1 dollar.

Je prendrais l'exemple du ministère de l'Agriculture parce que je le connais mieux. Ne pourrait-on pas adopter une disposition au sein de la Loi sur l'administration financière à ce sujet? Dans le cas du ministère de l'Agriculture quelque 3 millions de dollars n'ont pas été dépensés parcequ'on n'avait pas autant besoin d'argent pour la subvention aux provendes. Est-ce qu'on ne pourrait pas adopter une disposition pour que ces fonds retournent au conseil du Trésor, et pour que le ministère ait à refaire une nouvelle demande plutôt que de simplement transférer les fonds d'un crédit à un autre.

S'il ne s'agissait que d'un ministère ou deux je dirais: «Parfait; ils ont eu raison d'utiliser cet argent». Mais cela se produit tellement souvent, qu'il me semble que les ministères se disent: «puisque nous avons cet argent, dépensons-le». En tant que représentant des contribuables, cela ne me paraît pas très correct et j'aimerais qu'on adopte une mesure de rectification dans ce domaine. Si de l'argent est affecté ne s'est pas dépensé, il devrait revenir au Trésor et le ministre devrait alors faire une nouvelle demande pour un autre emploi. Cela ne semble peut-être pas très pratique, et pourrait signifier qu'on s'assurerait que l'argent soit bel et bien dépensé, je ne sais pas. C'est peut-être un faux raisonnement.

Dans le budget supplémentaire, il me semble que des sommes considérables auraient pu retourner au Trésor. Certaines de ces sommes étaient peut-être nécessaires pour certaines raisons, mais en certains cas, je pense qu'on s'est dit: «Faisons cela, nous avons l'argent. Nous transférerons l'argent de ce fonds qui a moins dépensé.»

M. Brittain: C'est une question qui ne se rattache pas directement au bill dont vous êtes saisis, et une question aussi qui soulève bien des problèmes. Ceux que vous avez signalés je ne les connais peut-être pas tellement, car je n'ai rien à voir avec les prévisions budgétaires qui ne relèvent pas de mon service. Je ne puis donc parler d'autorité et exposer pourquoi certaines sommes étant affectées ne sont pas utilisées et sont transférées à d'autres fins. C'est là, il me semble, une question qui pourrait être soulevée auprès du président du Conseil du Trésor dans un autre contexte, mais je ne pense pas que cela se rattache à ce bill.

[*Text*]

Mr. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Let us suppose that you had here somewhere an amendment to the effect that any department that does not spend its money must re-apply to Parliament for further appropriations.

Mr. Brittain: Mr. Chairman, I submit this is a supposition that is not related to the Bill. It is a matter I would very happily discuss with the honourable member at any time, but . .

Mr. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): It is a matter of general discussion.

The Chairman: It is just for our information, you know.

Mr. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): You see my point, though? I used agriculture only because I am on the Agriculture Committee and I am quite familiar with this, but it happened to a lot of other departments, too. I would like to see that money put back in the Treasury and then have them apply for it specially, rather than transfer it within departments.

Mr. McCutcheon: Mr. Chairman, in the last report that our Committee filed there was due recognition of this fact. It was in the report. What would you do, frankly?

Mr. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): I am just wondering whether some section of this reorganization bill—well, you cannot blame me for trying!

The Chairman: Oh, no, of course not.

Mr. Robinson: I move we adjourn, Mr. Chairman.

The Chairman: I think we should adjourn. The next meeting is not settled because we are trying to have the schedule re-arranged for next week. For the time being we are supposed to sit on Monday and Tuesday nights and we are trying to see if we can fit in at some other times.

Mr. McCutcheon: Mr. Chairman, is it fair to ask whether there will be more material before us, or will it just be to deal with Bill C-172?

The Chairman: Bill C-172 has to be completed, as you know, because we have to return it to the House for Third Reading. Then it has to be passed on to the Senate and be returned and get Royal Assent before April 1.

Also there are the Estimates that were referred to the Committee which we want to start as soon as possible.

[*Interpretation*]

M. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Mettons qu'il y ait dans ce bill une modification portant qu'un ministère qui ne dépense pas les fonds qui lui auraient été affectés devrait présenter une nouvelle demande au Parlement pour d'autres affectations.

M. Brittain: C'est une hypothèse qui ne se rattache pas au bill. C'est une chose dont j'aimerais certainement parler avec le député en une autre occasion mais...

M. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): C'est une question générale.

Le président: C'est simplement pour votre gouverne.

M. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Vous voyez quand même où je veux en venir. J'ai simplement utilisé l'exemple du ministère de l'Agriculture, parce que je fais partie du comité de l'Agriculture et que, par conséquent, je suis au courant de cette situation. J'aimerais que ces fonds retournent au Trésor. Et qu'on soit obligé de présenter une nouvelle demande plutôt que de faire des transferts à l'intérieur du ministère.

M. McCutcheon: Monsieur le président, dans le dernier rapport qu'a déposé notre comité, on reconnaissait bien ce fait. Franchement, que voudriez-vous faire?

M. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Je me demande seulement si certaines dispositions de ce bill... Vous ne pouvez tout de même pas m'empêcher de le faire!

Le président: Bien sûr que non.

M. Robinson: Je propose de lever la séance, monsieur le président.

Le président: Oui, je crois que nous devrions lever la séance. J'ignore quand nous tiendrons la prochaine séance. Nous essaierons d'avoir un programme organisé pour la semaine prochaine. Nous devions nous réunir lundi soir et mardi soir, mais nous verrons si nous pouvons nous organiser mieux que cela.

M. McCutcheon: Est-ce que nous aurons d'autres choses à étudier ou s'agira-t-il seulement de terminer l'étude du Bill C-172?

Le président: Le Bill C-172 doit être terminé, car il nous faut le déférer à la Chambre pour la troisième lecture et il faut que le projet de loi obtienne la sanction royale avant le 1er avril; puis, et avant tout, les crédits qui ont été déférés au Comité et qu'il nous faudra commencer à étudier le plus tôt possible.

[*Texte*]

Mr. Robinson: Do I understand correctly that Clause 13 was allowed to stand when Mr. Lambert was here? I am very hopeful that we can get a much broader explanation of this than we have had so far.

The Chairman: He is the lawyer on clause 13. Perhaps we can have his explanation and perhaps he could come back at...

Mr. McCutcheon: Is that in connection with proposed Section 35?

Mr. Robinson: Yes.

Mr. Hales: Mr. Chairman, just before we leave, I am not familiar with how these committees work because we do not have amendments in our Committees, you know. Will this Committee make a report on Bill C-172 and send it to the House for Third Reading?

The Chairman: We report the Bill to the House, with or without amendments as the case may be, and as soon as the report is there it is called for Third Reading. It will be called in the order that the Leader...

• 1135

Mr. Hales: When will you be taking amendments to it in this Committee?

The Chairman: The amendments?

Mr. Hales: Yes; at the next sitting?

The Chairman: To put through an amendment we will need a quorum. There is no doubt about that. At the next sitting we are going to start with Clause 13 anyway, because all the clauses after Clause 13 were only discussed, not called for a vote, because we did not have a quorum at that time. Therefore, we will have to call Clause 13 first for a vote when we resume our sitting. Concerning Clause 13, of course if there is an amendment...

Mr. McCutcheon: Could Mr. Levesque tell us how many clauses we have actually passed?

The Chairman: Clauses 2 to 12 inclusive.

The Clerk: Clause 1 stands and Clause 13 stands. The others have been discussed but not carried for lack of a quorum.

Mr. McCutcheon: Right, but 2 to 12 we have negotiated.

The Chairman: We have to vote on Clauses 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20 and then come back to Clause 1, the preamble and the title.

[*Interprétation*]

M. Robinson: Monsieur le président, dois-je comprendre que l'article 13 a été réservé lorsque M. Lambert était là? J'aimerais avoir des explications beaucoup plus complètes que celles que nous avons reçues jusqu'ici.

Le président: Nous aurons un conseiller juridique à titre de témoin en ce qui concerne l'article 13. Nous pourrons peut-être avoir des explications plus étendues.

M. McCutcheon: Est-ce que cet article est en relation avec le futur article 35?

M. Robinson: Oui.

M. Hales: Juste avant de nous séparer... Je ne suis pas très familier avec le travail du Comité, car nous n'avons par d'amendement dans nos comités. Est-ce que notre Comité va faire un rapport sur le Bill C-172 et l'envoyer à la Chambre pour la troisième lecture?

Le président: Oui, nous présenterons le Bill à la Chambre avec ou sans amendement selon le cas, et dès que le bill est présenté, il est appelé en troisième lecture. Il est appelé dans l'ordre dans lequel le Leader ..

M. Hales: Quand présentez-vous des amendements?

Le président: Les amendements?

M. Hales: Oui, à la prochaine séance?

Le président: Pour présenter un amendement, il nous faut un quorum. A la prochaine séance, nous allons commencer de toute façon avec l'article 13, car tous les articles après 13 ont été discutés et n'ont pas été de toute façon mis aux voix. Il faudrait donc mettre à l'étude l'article 13 dès que nous recommencerons la séance. Dans le cas de l'article 13, il y a évidemment un amendement.

M. McCutcheon: Est-ce que M. Lévesque peut nous dire combien d'articles nous avons effectivement adoptés?

Le président: Les articles 2 à 12 inclusivement.

Le greffier: Les articles 1 et 13 sont réservés. Les autres ont été étudiés mais n'ont pas été adoptés faute de quorum.

M. McCutcheon: Parfait, mais les articles 2 à 12 ont été adoptés.

Le président: Il nous faudra voter sur les articles 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19 et 20 puis revenir à l'article 1, au préambule et au titre.

[*Text*]

There was a question regarding Clause 13 on the legal interpretation of what is meant by "to extend the range of payments", and the difference between "a debt that became due" and "a debt payable for work performed, goods received or services rendered". Was that the discussion at that time that we were not clear on?

Mr. Robinson: In substance, Mr. Chairman, I think that is correct. I think really what I was concerned about is that in the previous section you limit the generality of using the additional words "payable for work performed, goods received or services rendered". You remove these words, so there is no limitation at all. You merely say, "discharging a debt".

Mr. H. Calof (Chief Legal Services, Treasury Board): Of course, there is the very basic limitation set out on line 14. The debt has to have become due prior to the end of the fiscal year. There are two problems. First of all, present Section 35 is...

Mr. Robinson: If I might just interrupt you, it may be a debt that became due before the end of the year, but it may not have involved the provision of "work performed, goods received, or services rendered".

Mr. Calof: Granted; yes.

Mr. Robinson: What would this be? Give us an illustration.

The Chairman: Let us hear the entire explanation. Then we will argue about the explanation if we do not agree.

Mr. Robinson: All right; I am in your hands, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. Calof: The first point I want to make is that Section 35 as presently drafted is a little ambiguous because there is no indication when the debt has to be incurred. You can have a situation in which work is performed, goods received, or services rendered during the year, but under the terms of the contract or the agreement the debt may not be payable until after the end of the year.

We are now saying that the debt itself under the terms of the arrangement, agreement or contract, or what have you, has to become due before the end of the year if it is going to be a charge on that year's expenditure. Is there any discussion about that?

[*Interpretation*]

On a posé une question au sujet de l'article 13, au sujet de l'interprétation légale de l'article 13, savoir ce que nous voulons dire par: «étendrait la gamme des paiements». C'est à la page 9 et la différence notamment entre: «une dette qui était devenue payable» et «une dette payable pour des travaux accomplis, des marchandises reçues ou des services rendus.» Voilà quelle était la discussion je crois.

M. Robinson: C'est exact, monsieur le président. Ce qui me préoccupait, c'est que dans l'article précédent vous limitez l'utilisation du terme: «d'acquitter une dette» en ajoutant les termes: «payable pour des travaux accomplis, des marchandises reçues ou des services rendus». Vous limitez cette expression. Il me semble que vous dites simplement: «d'acquitter une dette».

M. H. Calof (Chef du service du Contentieux, Conseil du Trésor): Je crois que le fait est qu'on trouve à ligne 14, une restriction; mais cela doit devenir payable à la fin de l'année financière. Il y a deux problèmes qui se font en l'occurrence. Tout d'abord l'article 35...

M. Robinson: Si vous me permettez de vous interrompre un instant, il s'agit peut-être d'une dette devenant échue ou payable avant la fin de l'année, mais cette dette n'est peut-être pas mise en cause.

M. Calof: Oui.

M. Robinson: Pouvez-vous nous donner un exemple d'une dette qui devient payable?

Le président: Entendons d'abord l'explication dans son tout et puis, nous ferons des commentaires sur ces explications au besoin.

M. Robinson: Très bien.

M. Calof: Le premier point que je tiens à souligner, c'est que l'article 35, dans son texte actuel est quelque peu ambigu car rien n'indique quand la dette doit être payée. Il se peut que des travaux soient accomplis, que des marchandises soient reçues ou que des services soient rendus au cours de l'année financière aux termes du contrat. La dette n'est peut-être pas payable jusqu'après la fin de l'année.

Le premier point que je compte soulever est celui-ci: disons maintenant que la dette aux termes de l'entente du contrat ou de l'engagement doit devenir payable avant la fin de l'année pour qu'il y ait un paiement, un versement. Mais, dans le passé, il fallait que ce soit pour des travaux accomplis, des marchandises reçues ou des services rendus.

[*Texte*]

Mr. Robinson: But in the past it had to be for work performed, goods received or services. . .

Mr. Calof: . . . rendered during the year, notwithstanding the fact that under the terms of the arrangement you might have had a situation where it was not payable until some subsequent time.

Mr. Robinson: Do you have a situation where it did not involve any of those three limitations?

Mr. Calof: All right. This the first point—let me just keep it at that as clarification. The second point is that under various contracts or arrangements you have undertakings whereby upon the entry of the contact—and I think Mr. Brittain might have given you the two situations at writer's fees or shipbuilding contracts—a certain amount was payable; there was a debt payable. The work, of course, was not performed yet, or the goods were not supplied, or the services were not rendered, and the policy position we are suggesting is that in that situation where there is this sort of payment, it should be a charge to the year's estimates.

Mr. Robinson: Why do we not merely add that to the limiting words we already have, rather than removing the limitations altogether?

Mr. Calof: In other words, you would say that the debt has to become due—do you want to proceed to develop that thought?

Mr. Robinson: Well, to give an illustration, suppose a department enters into a lease and then they do not move into the building. Now if you read the old section, there is really no work performed, goods received or services rendered.

Mr. Calof: But there would be a debt due, I take it.

Mr. Robinson: I know, but when you say they are discharging a debt you limit it with the following words. If you remove those words then, of course, you can make payment. If you do not remove the words then you cannot.

Mr. Calof: That is right, but then this is precisely the effect we wanted to achieve.

Mr. Robinson: Yes, but we do not want to have irresponsibility in departments, where they will enter into contracts of this nature and then find that the government is liable to pay for them. The impression I get is that you want to open the door to the point where

[*Interprétation*]

M. Robinson: Mais dans le passé, on parlait de travail accompli, de marchandises livrées et de services. . .

M. Calof: Rendus au cours de l'année, en depit du fait qu'en vertu du contrat la dette n'était peut-être pas payable jusqu'à une date ultérieure.

M. Robinson: Avez-vous des suggestions où ces trois limitations, ces trois restrictions n'entrent pas en cause?

M. Calof: Le deuxième point. C'est qu'aux termes des divers contrats, il se peut que lorsqu'en signant un contrat et on a peut-être pu vous donner deux situations, et je pense que M. Brittain l'a fait, les frais d'expédition, lorsque le contrat est signé, il y avait une somme qui était payable. Le travail n'a pas été accompli ou le service et les marchandises n'ont pas été fournis. On estime donc que cette dépense devrait être imputée au crédit de l'année lorsque ce genre de paiement s'applique.

M. Robinson: Pourquoi ne pas simplement ajouter cela à l'expression restrictive que nous avons plutôt que d'éliminer les trois autres restrictions.

M. Calof: Autrement dit, vous diriez que la dette doit devenir payable. . .Voulez-vous expliciter davantage?

M. Robinson: Eh bien! disons qu'un ministère signe un bail, et puis n'aille pas occuper l'immeuble. Maintenant, si vous lisez l'ancien article, il n'y a pas eu, en réalité, de services rendus, de marchandises reçues ou de travaux exécutés.

M. Calof: Mais il y aurait une dette à payer, n'est-ce pas?

M. Robinson: Je sais, mais quand vous dites «payer une dette», il y a là une restriction dans les mots qui suivent. Si vous biffez ces mots, le paiement peut alors être fait. Si vous ne les biffez pas, vous ne le pouvez pas.

M. Calof: C'est précisément l'effet que nous voulons.

M. Robinson: Oui, mais nous ne voulons pas qu'il y ait un manque de responsabilité au sein des ministères lorsqu'ils signeront des contrats de ce genre et qu'ils constatent après que le gouvernement est obligé de payer. L'impression que j'ai, c'est que vous voulez

[*Text*]

a department can do virtually anything, within their appropriations of course, and will pay for it, where before they were limited by these words of limitation in the previous section as to the kind of debt that could be incurred and would be paid.

Mr. Calof: Well, I suggest really we are only arguing as to which year's appropriations are to be charged. If you establish that there is a debt payable, surely it would be preferable to have that debt charged to the appropriation for the year in which the debt was incurred rather than given the situation you just set out.

Mr. Robinson: I am suggesting that there could be debts that would not be covered by work performed.

Mr. Calof: I accept that, yes.

Mr. Robinson: Now what you are doing is taking away this protection and saying, "All right, we will open the door a little wider and we will pay for things where we receive no benefit". I think we have to guard against irresponsibility and I do not think we are doing that in the amendment that you are suggesting.

I would like to have you take another look at it and when we have our next meeting maybe we could have a fuller explanation and perhaps resolve this.

Mr. Calof: Well, I do not think you are going to resolve it in a legal context, I think you are going to have to resolve this in a policy context because all you are suggesting is that notwithstanding that there may be a debt owing under a contract, if you come to the conclusion that there is some type of benefit that has not been received you do not want that to be a charge.

Mr. Robinson: In my view, if there is a debt there should be a benefit.

Mr. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): In other words, the department heads would not arrange for anything like this unless they were darn sure there was going to be a service supplied.

Mr. Robinson: If I might just finish, the impression that I received when the Minister spoke about presenting this bill was to put more responsibility on the part of department heads, deputies and so on. Now if we are

[*Interpretation*]

entrebâiller la porte à tel point que le ministère puisse faire à peu près n'importe quoi dans le cadre de son budget bien entendu, et qu'il va payer la note, tandis qu'auparavant, les ministères étaient restreints par ces expressions qui figuraient dans l'ancienne disposition quant au genre de dettes que l'on pouvait contracter et payer.

M. Calof: Il me semble que le débat porte seulement sur l'année des affectations, sur l'année financière, au cours de laquelle les affectations doivent, ou la dette doit être payée. Il me semble qu'il est préférable de payer la dette au cours de l'année.

M. Robinson: J'ai dit qu'il pourrait y avoir des dettes qui ne seraient pas couvertes par les travaux exécutés.

M. Calof: Oui, je le reconnais, je l'accepte.

M. Robinson: Ce que vous faites, en somme, c'est d'éliminer cette protection et de dire: «Très bien, nous allons ouvrir la porte plus grande et nous allons payer pour des choses, même si nous ne recevons aucun avantage, aucun bénéfice». Je crois qu'il faut prendre soin de ne pas donner lieu à de l'irresponsabilité, et je crois que nous ne faisons pas cela dans l'amendement que vous proposez.

Peut-être pourriez-vous jeter un coup d'œil de nouveau, et peut-être qu'à la prochaine réunion, nous pourrions avoir une explication plus complète.

M. Calof: Je ne pense pas qu'on puisse régler cette question dans un contexte juridique; je crois, qu'il faudrait la régler dans un contexte de politique, parce que vous dites simplement qu'en dépit du fait qu'il puisse y avoir une dette payable en vertu d'un contrat, si vous venez à la conclusion qu'il s'agit de certains genres d'avantages qui n'ont pas été reçus, vous ne voulez pas qu'on vous les implique.

M. Robinson: A mon avis, s'il y a dette, il devrait y avoir avantage.

M. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Autrement dit, les chefs de service s'assureraient pour qu'il y ait des services rendus.

M. Robinson: Si vous me permettez de terminer, l'impression que j'ai eue lorsque le ministre a fait son exposé inaugural, a présenté le bill, est qu'il voulait donner plus de responsabilités aux chefs de service, aux

[*Texte*]

going to do that I think we want to be realistic about it and not open the door to irresponsibility, which I think this clause does.

The Chairman: That is a matter of opinion and I do not believe that the witnesses can get involved with an opinion of that sort.

Mr. Calof: May I just make one final point. We all agree that we are only speaking in terms of a debt that is validly payable pursuant to some contract or other arrangement.

Mr. Robinson: We are speaking of a debt for work performed, goods received or services rendered.

Mr. Calof: Yes, but even in the amendment as proposed we are talking in terms of a legally binding obligation—we are talking about a debt incurred.

Mr. Robinson: But I am concerned about something outside these descriptive and limiting words, words that we have already. This is your only reason for making the changes, as far as I can see.

Mr. Brittain: The only reason for making the change, Mr. Chairman, was to make provision for those types of arrangements—

Mr. Robinson:—where a deposit is required.

Mr. Brittain:—where in a sense, a deposit is required, and the best example I can use is the writer's fee of 25 per cent.

Mr. Robinson: Why do you not say what you mean and put in here "where a deposit is required"?

Mr. Hales: In other words, by looking after these few examples you are going to open up the whole door.

• 1145

Mr. Brittain: Mr. Chairman, with your permission, I do not see how you are going to open up the whole door because we are talking about commitments that have been entered into where there are binding contracts, and it is a question then of making payment in the 30 days following the end of the fiscal year. The contract is binding.

Mr. Robinson: I am suggesting to you that the binding contract is much broader than the terms you have in the present section.

Mr. Calof: Agreed.

[*Interprétation*]

sous-ministres, etc. Mais, je crois que nous devons être plus réalistes et ne pas ouvrir la porte au manque de responsabilité, ce qui serait fait par cet article.

Le président: C'est une question d'opinion, et je ne pense pas que les témoins puissent être mis sur la sellette.

M. Calof: Un dernier point. Nous sommes tous d'accord que nous parlons tous d'une dette qui est légitimement payable, selon un contrat ou une entente.

M. Robinson: Nous parlons d'une dette pour des travaux accomplis, des marchandises reçues ou des services rendus.

M. Calof: Mais, même dans le nouvel amendement, il s'agit d'une obligation contractuelle légale, d'une dette légitime.

M. Robinson: Oui, mais ce qui me préoccupe c'est ce qui tombe en dehors de l'expression descriptive et limitative que nous avons déjà. C'est la seule raison pour laquelle vous avez apporté des changements, à mon sens.

M. Brittain: La seule raison pour laquelle nous avons apporté des changements, monsieur le président, c'est de prévoir ces genres d'arrangements.

M. Robinson: Où un dépôt est requis?

M. Brittain: Où, dans un certain sens, un dépôt est requis, et le meilleur exemple que je puis employer est celui des honoraires de l'avoué de 25 p. 100.

M. Robinson: Pourquoi ne pas dire ce que vous voulez dire et insérer ici «où un dépôt est requis»?

M. Hales: Autrement dit, avec ces quelques exemples, vous allez ouvrir la porte.

M. Brittain: Monsieur le président, si vous le permettez, je ne pense pas qu'on puisse ouvrir la porte, car il s'agit ici d'engagements qui ont été signés sous forme de contrats obligatoires, et il s'agit donc de faire des paiements au cours des trente jours qui suivent l'année financière. Le contrat lie, de toute façon.

M. Robinson: Je suis d'avis qu'un contrat qui lie est beaucoup plus large que les conditions que vous avez dans le présent article.

M. Calof: D'accord.

[*Text*]

The Chairman: The explanation says it extends the range of payments.

Mr. Calof: That is agreed. But the question then is whether you want another policy approach taken.

Mr. Robinson: I am not satisfied that the policy has been properly defined or limited—or is there any limit on it? You just open the door and say, now your appropriation is X numbers of dollars and within that you can go out and write any kind of contracts you like. It does not matter whether there is any benefit to the government or the department but you can obligate yourself and pay for them. Previously, under the previous section, you could not do that because you were limited to work performed, goods, received and services rendered—and that is what I am concerned about.

Mr. Calof: Yes, of course, but you still have to be acting within the terms of the appropriation.

Mr. Robinson: Well, it may be quite reasonable to enter into a lease that might cost the department $100,000—and this would be a valid appropriation—then you do not move into the building, but you still have to pay for it. There is no obligation to re-rent it—there are no obligations at all. You have incurred a debt. This is a very nice cliché to use.

The Chairman: Well, Mr. Calof, even under the previous working of the act, if the government rents a building, even if it does not move to the building the rent has to be paid—there is no doubt about that. No matter what wording you have there, it is a debt.

Mr. Hales: Mr. Chairman, I would like the Justice Department to come back with a rewording here, leaving in these present words, "payable for work performed" and so on, but adding to that what they in Treasury Board feel they need. I would like it to take care of such situations as this—and I refer to paragraph 94 on page 48 of the Auditor General's Report, which says:

> Excessive advance payments under contracts. Two instances were noted during the year in which excessive advance payments had been made under contracts. In our opinion these serve to illustrate that the parliamentary control provided by section 35..

That is what we are dealing with,

> ...of the Financial Administration Act is

[*Interpretation*]

Le président: On dit simplement qu'on modifie la formule de paiement.

M. Calof: Je suis d'accord. Vous voulez peut-être qu'on adopte une autre politique.

M. Robinson: Je ne suis pas satisfait. Je ne pense pas que la nouvelle politique apporte une certaine restriction. Vous ouvrez simplement la porte. Vous dites que l'affectation est de X dollars et dans ce cadre vous pouvez adopter n'importe quel contrat. Il n'importe pas que le ministère ou le gouvernement en profite ou non, mais vous pouvez vous obliger et payer. Auparavant, on ne pouvait pas le faire parce qu'on était limité aux travaux accomplis, aux marchandises reçues ou aux services rendus. Voilà ce qui me préoccupe.

M. Calof: Oui, bien entendu, il faut encore se conformer aux termes des affectations.

M. Robinson: Il serait peut-être raisonnable de contracter un bail qui pourrait coûter $100,000 au ministère, et il s'agirait là d'une affectation valide, et puis, le ministère ne déménagerait pas, il faudrait encore payer pour ce bail. Il n'y aurait aucune obligation de sous-louer, il y aurait une dette. Il s'agit ici d'un beau cliché.

Le président: Eh bien, monsieur Calof, même en vertu du libellé précédent de la loi, si le gouvernement loue un immeuble, même s'il n'aménage pas cet immeuble, il est obligé de payer pour ce bail, quels que soient les termes du libellé d'une loi, il s'agit d'une dette et il faut la payer.

M. Hales: Monsieur le président, j'aimerais que le ministère de la Justice puisse nous présenter une nouvelle disposition qui conserverait l'expression «payable pour travaux accomplis, marchandises reçues ou services rendus» et qu'on y ajoute ce dont le Conseil du Trésor a besoin, et j'aimerais qu'on prévoit le genre de situation et j'aimerais parler de l'alinéa 94 à la page 48 du Rapport de l'Auditeur général, où il dit:

> Paiements anticipatifs trop élevés faits en vertu de contrats. Au cours de l'année, on a noté deux cas de paiements anticipatifs trop élevés faits en vertu de contrats. A notre avis, ces exemples servent à prouver que lorsque des fonds sont avancés à des fournisseurs pour des sommes qui ne peuvent être justifiées par les coûts accumulés, les marchandises reçues ou les

[*Texte*]

circumvented when funds are advanced to suppliers in amounts that cannot be justified by accumulated costs, goods received or services rendered.

And then he goes on to give some examples. Now if this is taken out it will open this up wider still. I would like to see some terminology that will take care of what has been happening under Section 35.

Mr. Brittain: As the Auditor General pointed out in that case, it was a question of circumventing—I am not too familiar with the details—Section 35, not the application of Section 35.

Mr. Hales: Well, we want it fixed so they cannot circumvent it.

The Chairman: Thank you very much, gentlemen. Perhaps at the next sitting Mr. Calof could come back. Would that be possible?

Mr. Calof: When would the next sitting be?

The Chairman: We do not know yet, but we will be in touch with Mr. Brittain. There may be some legal points, too, to look at. We would like at the next sitting to carry the bill so that we can report to the House and send it for third reading.

Thank you very much. You will be advised of the next sitting.

[*Interprétation*]

services rendus, on se soustrait au contrôle qu'exerce le Parlement en vertu de l'article 35 de la Loi sur l'Administration financière.

L'auditeur général nous donne ensuite des exemples. Si on enlève cette disposition, on ouvre la porte encore plus grande. J'aimerais qu'on rédige une disposition en vue de prévoir ces éventualités, aux termes de l'article 35.

M. Brittain: Comme l'Auditeur général a parlé de se soustraire au contrôle (je ne suis pas trop au courant des détails) de l'article 35, non de l'application de l'article 35.

M. Hales: Nous voudrions au contraire qu'on colmate la brèche et qu'il n'y ait pas d'échappatoire.

Le président: Eh bien, je vous remercie beaucoup, messieurs. Peut-être, M. Calof pourra-t-il venir de nouveau à la prochaine séance. Cela serait-il possible?

M. Calof: Quand sera la prochaine séance?

Le président: Nous ignorons quand nous allons siéger de nouveau, mais nous allons communiquer avec M. Brittain. Peut-être y aurait-il quelques autres points d'ordre juridique à élucider, car nous aimerions faire en sorte que nous puissions présenter le rapport à la Chambre en vue de la troisième lecture, le plus tôt possible.

Je vous remercie beaucoup, vous serez avisés de la date de la prochaine réunion.

OFFICIAL BILINGUAL ISSUE

HOUSE OF COMMONS

First Session

Twenty-eighth Parliament, 1968-69

FASCICULE BILINGUE OFFICIEL

CHAMBRE DES COMMUNES

Première session de la

vingt-huitième législature, 1968-1969

STANDING COMMITTEE

ON

MISCELLANEOUS ESTIMATES

COMITÉ PERMANENT

DES

PRÉVISIONS BUDGÉTAIRES EN GÉNÉRAL

Chairman M. Fernand E. Leblanc *Président*

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS AND EVIDENCE

PROCÈS-VERBAUX ET TÉMOIGNAGES

No. 12

MONDAY, MARCH 17, 1969

LE LUNDI 17 MARS 1969

Respecting

BILL C-122,

An Act to amend the Financial Administration Act.

Concernant

BILL C-122,

Loi modifiant la Loi sur l'administration financière

WITNESSES—TÉMOINS

(See Minutes of Proceedings) *(Voir Procès-verbaux)*

The Queen's Printer, Ottawa, 1969
L'Imprimeur de la Reine, Ottawa, 1969

OFFICIAL BILINGUAL ISSUE

HOUSE OF COMMONS

First Session

Twenty-eighth Parliament, 1968-69

FASCICULE BILINGUE OFFICIEL

CHAMBRE DES COMMUNES

Première session de la

vingt-huitième législature, 1968-1969

STANDING COMMITTEE ON

MISCELLANEOUS ESTIMATES

COMITÉ PERMANENT DES

PRÉVISIONS BUDGÉTAIRES EN GÉNÉRAL

Chairman M. Fernand E. Leblanc *Président*

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS AND EVIDENCE

PROCÈS-VERBAUX ET TÉMOIGNAGES

No. 12

MONDAY, MARCH 17, 1969

LE LUNDI 17 MARS 1969

Respecting

BILL C-172,

An Act to amend the Financial Administration Act.

Concernant

BILL C-172,

Loi modifiant la Loi sur l'administration financière.

WITNESSES—TÉMOINS

(See Minutes of Proceedings) *(Voir Procès-verbaux)*

The Queen's Printer, Ottawa, 1969
L'Imprimeur de la Reine, Ottawa, 1969

29987-1

STANDING COMMITTEE
ON
MISCELLANEOUS ESTIMATES

COMITÉ PERMANENT
DES
PRÉVISIONS BUDGÉTAIRES
EN GÉNÉRAL

Chairman: M. Fernand-E. Leblanc *Président.*
Vice-Chairman: [14] M. Aurélien Noël *Vice-président.*

and Messrs. et MM.

Alkenbrack,
Clermont,
Crossman,
Goode,
[10] Guay (Lévis),
Guilbault,
[15] Gundlock,
[8] Hales,
Lambert (Edmonton West),
[9] LeBlanc (Rimouski),
McCutcheon,
Nystrom,
Peddle,
[12] Robinson,
[13] Rochon,
Rodrigue,
[11] Roy (Timmins),
Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley)—20.

Le secrétaire du Comité,
D. E. Levesque
Clerk of the Committee.

Pursuant to S.O. 65 (4) (b)

[8] Mr. Paproski replaced Mr. Hales on March 13, 1969

[9] Mr. Marchand (*Kamloops*) replaced Mr. LeBlanc (*Rimouski*) on March 14, 1969

[10] Mr. McBride replaced Mr. Guay (*Lévis*) on March 14, 1969

[11] Mr. Breau replaced Mr. Roy (*Timmins*) on March 14, 1969

[12] Mr. Douglas (*Assiniboia*) replaced Mr. Robinson on March 14, 1969

[13] Mr. Trudel replaced Mr. Rochon on March 14, 1969

[14] Mr. Gillespie replaced Mr. Noël on March 14, 1969

[15] Mr. Hales replaced Mr. Gundlock on March 14, 1969

Conformément à l'article 65 (4) (b) du Règlement

[8] M. Paproski a remplacé M. Hales le 13 mars 1969

[9] M. Marchand (*Kamloops*) a remplacé M. LeBlanc (*Rimouski*) le 14 mars 1969

[10] M. McBride a remplacé M. Guay (*Lévis*) le 14 mars 1969

[11] M. Breau a remplacé M. Roy (*Timmins*) le 14 mars 1969

[12] M. Douglas (*Assiniboia*) a remplacé M. Robinson le 14 mars 1969

[13] M. Trudel a remplacé M. Rochon le 14 mars 1969

[14] M. Gillespie a remplacé M. Noël le 14 mars 1969

[15] M. Hales a remplacé M. Gundlock le 14 mars 1969

REPORT TO THE HOUSE

Monday, March 17, 1969.

The Standing Committee on the Miscellaneous Estimates has the honour to present its

FIFTH REPORT

Your Committee has considered Bill C-172, An Act to amend the Financial Administration Act, and has agreed to report it with the following amendment:

On Clause 13

Line 13 of Section 35 of the said Act, after the word debt, delete the words:

"that became due"

and substitute the following therefor:

"payable for work performed, goods received, services rendered, or payable under any other contractual arrangement, made" . . .

A copy of the Minutes of Proceedings and Evidence relating to this Bill (*Issues Nos. 10, 11 and 12*) is tabled.

Respectfully submitted,

Le président,
FERNAND E. LEBLANC,
Chairman.

RAPPORT À LA CHAMBRE

Le lundi 17 mars 1969

Le Comité permanent des prévisions budgétaires en général a l'honneur de présenter son

CINQUIÈME RAPPORT

Le Comité a examiné le Bill C-172, Loi modifiant la Loi sur l'administration financière, et est convenu d'en faire rapport avec la modification suivante:

Article 13

A la ligne 11 de l'article 35 de ladite loi, après le mot dette, retrancher les mots:

«qui était devenue payable»

et leur substituer ce qui suit:

«payable pour travaux exécutés, marchandises reçues, services rendus, ou payable en vertu d'un autre accord contractuel conclu» . . .

Un exemplaire des procès-verbaux et témoignages relatifs à ce bill (*fascicules nos 10, 11 et 12*) est déposé.

Respectueusement soumis,

29987–1½

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

[*Text*]

Monday, March 17, 1969.
(13)

The Standing Committee on Miscellaneous Estimates met this day at 3:40 p.m. The Chairman, Mr. Fernand Leblanc, presided.

Members present: Messrs. Alkenbrack, Breau, Clermont, Crossman, Douglas (*Assiniboia*), Gillespie, Goode, Guilbault, Hales, Leblanc (*Laurier*), Marchand (*Kamloops-Cariboo*), McBride, Peddle, Trudel (14).

Witnesses: From the Treasury Board: Mr. W. B. Brittain, Acting Assistant Secretary and Mr. W. L. Parr, Director, Authorities Advisory Service.

The Chairman introduced the witnesses and the Committee resumed discussion of Bill C-172, An Act to amend the Financial Administration Act.

On Clause 13,

Mr. Gillespie moved,

That Bill C-172, be amended by striking out line 13 on page 9 thereof and substituting therefor the following:

"of discharging a debt payable for work performed, goods received, services rendered, or payable under any other contractual arrangement, made" . . .

Clause 13 was carried as amended.

Clauses 14 to 16 inclusive were carried.

On Clause 17

It was agreed, that Mr. Alkenbrack read a letter from Mr. Les Savage of Millhaven Inn, Bath, Ontario, into the records. (*See Evidence*).

Clauses 17 to 21 inclusive were carried.

Clause (1) carried.

The Title carried.

The Bill carried.

It was agreed, that the Chairman report Bill C-172, as amended, to the House.

At 4:50 p.m. the Committee adjourned to the call of the Chair.

PROCÈS-VERBAL

[*Traduction*]

Le lundi, 17 mars 1969.
(13)

Le Comité permanent sur les prévisions budgétaires en général s'est réuni cet après-midi à 3 h. 40 p.m., sous la présidence de M. Fernand Leblanc, président.

Présents: MM. Alkenbrack, Breau, Clermont, Crossman, Douglas (*Assiniboia*), Gillespie, Goode, Guilbault, Hales, Leblanc (*Laurier*), Marchand (*Kamloops-Cariboo*), McBride, Peddle, Trudel (14).

Témoins: du Conseil du Trésor: M. W. B. Brittain, secrétaire adjoint par intérim, et M. W. L. Parr, directeur du Service consultatif des autorisations.

Le président présente les témoins et le Comité reprend l'étude du projet de loi C-172, Loi modifiant la Loi sur l'administration financière.

A l'article 13.

M. Gillespie propose,

Que le projet de loi C-172 soit modifié en rayant les mots, «qui était devenue payable» après le mot «dette» à la 11ième ligne de la page 9 et en ajoutant ce qui suit:

«payable pour travaux exécutés, marchandises reçues, services rendus, ou payable en vertu d'un autre accord contractuel conclu». . .

Article 13 adopté tel que modifié.

Articles 14 à 16 inclusivement, adoptés.

A l'article 17

Il a été convenu que M. Alkenbrack lise une lettre de M. Les Savage, de Millhaven Inn, Bath, Ontario, et que cette dernière soit versée au compte rendu. (*voir témoignage*).

Articles 17 à 21 inclusivement, adoptés.

Article 1 adopté.

Le titre de la Loi est adopté.

Le projet de loi est adopté

Il est convenu que le président défère le Bill C-172 tel que modifié à la Chambre.

Le Comité s'ajourne à 4 h. 50 p.m. jusqu'à prochain avis du président.

Le secrétaire du Comité,
D.-E. Levesque,
Clerk of the Committee.

[*Texte*]

EVIDENCE

(*Recorded by Electronic Apparatus*)

Monday, March 17, 1969.

• 1541

The Chairman: For the benefit of the new members of the Committee I will introduce the witnesses, many of whom you know very well, and the new witnesses, too.

Mr. Bruce Britain, Acting Assistant Secretary and Mr. Eric Jay, Financial Management Adviser, both of whom are with the Management Improvement Branch of the Treasury Board; Mr. Fred Gibson, Senior Advisory Counsel, Justice Department; and Mr. W. L. Parr, Director, Authorities Advisory Service, Office of the Comptroller of the Treasury.

As most of you know, we have studied clauses 2 to 12 inclusive, and those clauses were agreed to.

On Clause 13—*Lapsing of appropriations*

Mr. Gillespie: Mr. Chairman, at the previous meeting of the Committee there was a good deal of discussion on the proposed wording of Clause 13. I would like to propose a amendment.

As I understand it, the reason for the proposed change in the wording was to provide for certain types of contracts during the one-month period after the end of the fiscal year. Under the existing wording it is impossible for the government to honour certains types of contractual obligations, and that wording was proposed. In the view of many, however, myself included, it is too wide and I think we should revert to the old wording, with the addition of a short phrase which I think would provide for the particular situation about which the government was concerned when it proposed the first wording.

My motion is this, Mr. Chairman, that:

> Clause 13 of Bill 172 be amended by striking out line 13 on page 9 thereof and substituting therefor the following: of discharging a debt payable for work performed, goods received, services rendered . . .

• 1545

Those are the words under the existing Act. The new words are:

[*Interprétation*]

TÉMOIGNAGES

(*Enregistrement électronique*)

Le lundi 17 mars 1969

Le président: Pour le bénéfice des nouveaux membres du Comité, je présenterai d'abord les témoins, dont plusieurs vous sont connus, de même que les nouveaux témoins. M. Bruce Brittain, secrétaire adjoint suppléant, M. Eric Jay, conseiller en mesures financières, ils sont tous les deux de la Division des réformes administratives au Conseil du trésor. M. Fred Gibson, du ministère de la Justice et M. W. L. Parr, directeur, Bureau du contrôleur du Trésor.

Comme vous le savez tous, nous avons étudié les articles 2 à 12 inclusivement et ces articles ont été adoptés.

Article 13: Annulation des crédits.

M. Gillespie: Monsieur le président, il y a eu beaucoup de discussion lors de la dernière réunion concernant le texte de l'article 13. Personnellement, j'aimerais soumettre un amendement. D'après ce que j'ai cru comprendre, la raison pour laquelle on envisageait de modifier le texte, était pour permettre l'adjudication de certains contrats durant la période d'un mois qui suit la fin des exercices financiers. D'après le texte actuel, il est impossible pour le gouvernement d'honorer certaines obligations contractuelles et c'est pourquoi on désire modifier le texte. Dans l'esprit de plusieurs personnes, et dans le mien, le texte est trop vague et je pense que nous devrions revenir à l'ancien texte, mais en ajoutant quelques mots qui, à mon avis, permettraient de résoudre le problème soulevé par le gouvernement lorsqu'il a soumis le premier texte.

Alors ma motion est la suivante, monsieur le président:

> L'article 13 du Bill 172 est modifié en éliminant aux lignes 10 et 11 les mots «afin d'acquitter une dette qui était devenue payable» et en les remplaçant par les mots «afin d'acquitter une dette payable pour des travaux accomplis, des marchandises reçues ou des services rendus».

Ces derniers mots sont ceux du texte actuel de loi. Les mots à ajouter sont les suivants:

[*Text*]

or payable under any other contractual arrangement made

and then it would carry on:

prior to the end of the fiscal year, and such payment may be charged in the accounts for the fiscal year."

The Chairman: If I understand correctly, we are reverting to Section 35, or picking up the definition that was there.

Line 12 is "for the purpose . . ." and the amendment then would be:

of discharging a debt . . .

On the right-hand side of the page we read "payable for work performed," so you are coming back to the original section 35—"discharging a debt payable for work performed, goods received or services rendered". That is as it was previously.

Mr. Gillespie: That is right.

The Chairman: "or," and then it would be "payable under any other contractural arrangement."? That is the new wording?

Mr. Gillespie: That is correct.

The Chairman: "Any other contractual . . ."

Mr. Gillespie: " . . . arrangement made".

Mr. Hales: Mr. Chairman, I do not think that requires a seconder, but I would be glad to speak to the motion.

The Chairman: Yes.

Mr. Hales: I think this would take care of the very problems that we felt would be inherent in this Bill if it had been changed to "having debt that became due" incorporated in the new Act. Therefore, I am pleased to support this motion to remove that very broad and ambiguous phrase "debt that became due," which is altogether too broad. It gives to the Department altogether too much authority and takes away from Parliament the authority over, and the control of, the public purse that we wish to retain. Therefore, I would be most happy to see those words kept in this clause, as just outlined by the Chairman.

The Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Hales.

Shall clause 13 as amended by Mr. Gillespie carry?

Mr. Clermont: Do we not accept the amendment first?

The Chairman: Yes. Shall the amendment carry?

[*Interpretation*]

ou payable aux termes d'une entente contractuelle

Et l'article se terminerait ainsi:

avant la fin de l'année financière, et ce paiement peut être passé aux comptes de l'année financière.

Le président: Alors si j'ai bien compris, on en revient au texte actuel de l'article 35.

afin d'acquitter une dette

A droite de la page 9 on peut lire «payable pour des travaux accomplis». Vous revenez donc au texte actuel de la loi: «afin d'acquitter une dette payable pour des travaux accomplis, des marchandises reçues, des services rendus.» C'est le texte actuel.

M. Gillespie: C'est bien cela.

Le président: «ou» et les mots que vous avez ajoutés sont les suivants n'est-ce pas: «payable aux termes d'une entente contractuelle»?

M. Gillespie: C'est exact.

Le président: «d'une entente . . .»

M. Gillespie: « . . . contractuelle.»

M. Hales: Je ne crois pas que cette motion ait besoin d'être appuyée, monsieur le président, mais j'aimerais parler sur cette question.

Le président: Très bien.

M. Hales: Je crois qu'il serait possible de cette façon de résoudre les problèmes que se seraient posés si le texte avait été modifié pour parler d'une «dette qui était devenue payable». Je suis donc heureux d'appuyer cette motion qui veut éliminer cette expression que je trouve trop vague. Ce texte accorderait trop d'autorité au ministère et l'enlèverait au Parlement que nous préférons voir contrôler les deniers publics. Je serais très heureux que la modification suggérée soit incorporée au bill.

Le président: Merci, monsieur Hales.

Est-ce que l'article 13, tel qu'amendé par monsieur Gillespie, est adopté?

M. Clermont: Ne devons-nous pas d'abord accepter l'amendement?

Le président: Oui. Est-ce que l'amendement est adopté?

[*Texte*]

Amendment agreed to.

Clause 13 as amended agreed to.

Mr. Goode: On a point of order, Mr. Chairman, relative to what happened in Transport Committee, is it not necessary now to make a motion that this amendment be reported to the House?

The Chairman: We have to report the Bill with the amendments to the House. There is no problem there, I do not think it has to be mentioned that it has to be reported to the House.

Mr. Goode: It was pointed out to us in the Committee of Procedure that we made a mistake in Transport.

The Chairman: You are asking if the amendment has to be reported to the House?

Mr. Goode: That is right.

The Chairman: Does it have to be mentioned?

An hon. Member: No, no.

The Chairman: Then that is it.

Mr. Goode: Is it then, during estimates that you have to have a motion that amendments be reported to the House?

The Chairman: Yes; just in estimates.

Mr. Goode: Just in estimates.

The Chairman: Yes, on a bill, if amended, we have to report it.

Mr. Trudel: Mr. Chairman, what was mentioned in the Transport Committee was that we were making a motion that was not included in the terms of reference. We are now within the structure of what has been referred to this Committee. Therefore, it does not need to be referred to the House specifically, because it will be reported as an entity. This was my understanding on this other motion.

Clauses 14, 15, 16, and 17 agreed to.

The Chairman: Shall Clause 18 on page 13 carry?

Some Hon. Members: Agreed.

Mr. Hales: Part VIII B has to do with subcontracts, does it not, Mr. Chairman?

The Chairman: What is your question again, Mr. Hales?

Mr. Hales: I am referring to Part VIIIB–Assignment of Debts Due to the Crown under Payment

[*Interprétation*]

L'amendement est adopté.

L'article 13 tel qu'amendé est adopté.

M. Goode: Si l'on se fie à ce qui s'est passé au comité des transports, monsieur le président, ne serait-il pas maintenant dans l'ordre d'adopter une motion pour que cet amendement soit rapporté en Chambre?

Le président: Il nous faut rapporter le bill, amendé ou non, à la Chambre. Je ne vois aucun problème. Je ne crois pas qu'il soit nécessaire de mentionner que l'amendement doit être rapporté à la Chambre.

M. Goode: On nous a signalé, au comité de la procédure, qu'une erreur avait été commise au comité des transports.

Le président: Vous vous demandez si l'amendement doit être rapporté à la Chambre?

M. Goode: Oui.

Le président: S'il faut le mentionner?

Une voix: Non, non.

Le président: Voilà, le problème est réglé.

M. Goode: Est-ce lors de l'étude des prévisions budgétaires, alors, qu'il faut adopter une motion pour rapporter un amendement à la Chambre?

Le président: Oui, uniquement à ce moment-là.

M. Goode: Uniquement.

Le président: Oui. S'il s'agit d'un bill et s'il a été amendé, il faut en faire rapport.

M. Trudel: Je crois, monsieur le président, que ce qui a été dit au comité des transports c'est que la motion dépassait la compétence du comité. Nous sommes présentement à l'intérieur des limites de ce qui a été confié à ce Comité. Il n'y a donc aucun besoin de rapporter ce détail particulier à la Chambre puisque le bill, dans son ensemble, sera rapporté. C'est du moins ainsi que je comprends la situation.

Les articles 14, 15, 16 et 17 sont adoptés.

Le président: Article 18, à la page 13, est-il adopté?

Des voix: D'accord.

M. Hales: La partie VIIIB parle des sous-contrats, n'est-ce pas, monsieur le président?

Le président: Quelle était votre question monsieur Hales?

M. Hales: Je parlais de la partie VIIIB–Cession des dettes dues à la Couronne en vertu de cautionnements

[*Text*]

Bonds. Were we not discussing subcontractors and so on in that clause?

The Chairman: We are back to Clause 17 now.

Mr. Hales: That is on page 11.

The Chairman: All right. Could you answer that question Mr. Brittain?

Mr. Brittain: May I hear your question again, Mr. Hales?

Mr. Hales: Mr. Brittain, that is the section that deals with payment to subcontractors?

Mr. Brittain: Yes, that is right, Mr. Hales.

Mr. Hales: My partner here has some questions because he has had some very sad experiences in this connection.

Mr. Alkenbrack: Mr. Brittain, are you from the Department of Finance?

Mr. Brittain: No, sir, I am from Treasury Board.

Mr. Alkenbrack: Some time ago, Mr. Chairman, on Tuesday, February 25 I brought up in the House during the debate on the adjournment motion the fact that it was revealed that the government had failed to bond the subcontractor on the Bath-Millhaven prison complex now under construction about one mile east of the Village of Bath.

I will not go into what I said in the House because it is reported in Hansard of Tuesday, February 25. However, the general contractor on that job is Argo Inc. and the subcontractor who gave all the trouble, embarrassment and incovenience was a contractor named D. Leblanc Inc. of Chomedey, Laval just outside Montreal.

As it happened, Mr. Chairman, the government has undertaken to earmark or hold back $30,000 of progress payments that might be coming to the general contractor in order to make good these cheques that are still out around the country. It is estimated that there may be as high as $30,000 worth of these cheques.

Since I intervened there on behalf of the labouring men in my riding and some of the businessmen who

• 1555

picked up some of these rubber cheques, I have had word from a hostelry there, Millhaven Inn, which is right near the job. I am informed that the operator of that business was providing accommodation for some of Leblanc's staff.

[*Interpretation*]

de paiements. Ne discutions-nous pas des sous-entrepreneurs, etc., dans cette clause.

Le président: Nous revenons à la clause 17 là alors.

M. Hales: C'est à la page 11.

Le président: Très bien. Pouvez-vous répondre à la question, monsieur Brittain?

M. Brittain: Pouvez-vous répéter votre question, monsieur Hales?

M. Hales: Monsieur Brittain, c'est l'article qui traite des paiements aux sous-entrepreneurs.

M. Brittain: Oui, c'est exact, monsieur Hales.

M. Hales: Mon associé, ici présent, a certaines questions parce qu'il a eu une mauvaise expérience à ce sujet.

M. Alkenbrack: Monsieur Brittain, appartenez-vous au ministère des Finances?

M. Brittain: Non, monsieur, j'appartiens au Conseil du Trésor.

M. Alkenbrack: Il y a quelque temps, monsieur le président, c'était le 25 février, j'avais soulevé la question à la Chambre, au cours du débat sur la motion d'ajournement, qu'il avait été révélé que le gouvernement n'avait pas obtenu de cautionnement du sous-entrepreneur pour le groupe d'édifices de la prison de Bath-Millhaven, maintenant en construction à environ un mille à l'est du village de Bath.

Alors, je ne vais pas revenir sur ce que j'ai dit à la Chambre, vous l'avez ici dans le Hansard du 25 février, mais le sous-entrepreneur, c'est *Argo Inc.* en l'occurrence et le sous-entrepreneur qui a fait toutes les difficultés, l'embarras et les troubles, s'appelait D. Leblanc Inc. de Chomedey, Laval, en banlieue de Montréal.

Alors, d'après ce qui s'est passé, monsieur le président, le gouvernement a mis en réserve $30,000 pour des paiements qui pourraient être dus à l'entrepreneur pour que ces chèques soient honorés dans tout le pays. On estime que cela vaut à peu près $30,000.

Depuis que j'ai pris la parole à ce moment au nom des ouvriers de ma circonscription, y compris des hommes d'affaires qui avaient eu ces chèques sans provisions, j'ai reçu un mot du *Millhaven Inn* qui se trouve à proximité du chantier. On m'informe que l'exploitant de l'entreprise s'occupait, lui, de loger une partie du personnel de M. Leblanc.

[*Texte*]

Mr. Chairman, I would like to put this letter on the record, if it is permissible to to do so and if it is not against the rules of the Committee.

The Chairman: As long as you have the authorization of the Committee, it is all right. Does the Committee agree that we should deposit this letter with the clerk?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Mr. Trudel: Mr. Chairman, may I speak to this?

The Chairman: Yes.

Mr. Trudel: What is the purpose of appending this letter to the minutes? There must be a reason for it?

Mr. Alkenbrack: It is to establish the fact that not only do we owe labouring men for reimbursement of these bad cheques but we also owe this man who was good enough to provide some of Leblanc's staff with room and board.

I will not read all the letter. Some of this letter is congratulatory but I am not going to read that part of it. He says:

> I gather from the remarks of the Hon. P. Langlois we are just as far away from being reimbursed for our NSF cheques as the day they bounced, as he quotes:
>
> "The general contractor has undertaken to redeem any cheques issued by subcontractors and not yet cashed for direct labour".

The reason I must bring this up today is that the cheques for direct labour are taken care of but apparently none of the others are.

Still quoting from the letter:

> Furthermore, I phoned Argo claims representative, Mr. Caron (739-2423 Montreal) who is handling the Argo-LeBlanc affairs, and he states that as far as Argo are concerned we haven't a hope of getting our money.

He is referring to room and board—the service money, not the labour money.

> They are only interested in labour and wages. I feel at this point in the ball game that, you, having brought this matter to light in the House, there are too many ways contracts are concerned and we the small man cannot fight the big bats.

The Chairman: Mr. Alkenbrack, please. Mr. Trudel, on a point of order.

[*Interprétation*]

Monsieur le président, je voudrais que la lettre soit attachée au procès-verbal si cela est possible, je ne pense pas que cela soit contraire au Règlement du Comité.

Le président: Bon, pour autant que vous avez l'accord du Comité, ça va. Est-ce que le Comité est d'accord pour confier cette lettre au secrétaire?

Des voix: D'accord.

M. Trudel: Monsieur le président, puis-je avoir la parole?

Le président: Oui.

M. Trudel: Quel est le but de l'annexation de cette lettre au procès-verbal? Il doit y avoir une raison?

M. Alkenbrack: Cela est pour prouver que non seulement nous devons de l'argent aux ouvriers dans la mesure où les chèques étaient sans provisions, mais également à cette personne qui a eu la bonté de loger les employés de M. Leblanc.

Je ne veux pas vous lire toute la lettre, mais je veux simplement vous dire que je crois comprendre qu'une partie de la lettre est une lettre de félicitations en partie, mais enfin je ne veux pas vous la lire, il dit simplement à un moment:

> Je crois comprendre des remarques faites par M. Langlois que nous n'avons pas plus de chance maintenant d'être remboursés que le jour où ils ont été renvoyés par la banque, et il cite:
>
> «L'entrepreneur général s'est engagé à rembourser tous les chèques émis par le sous-entrepreneur et qui n'ont pas encore été encaissés pour le travail direct».

Alors, c'est la raison pour laquelle je soulève cette question aujourd'hui parce qu'on a réglé les chèques pour la main-d'œuvre directe mais on n'a pas réglé les autres chèques et je continue à citer de la lettre:

> J'ai téléphoné au service de représentation de l'ARGO, c'était M. Caron (739-2423, Montréal) qui s'occupait de l'affaire Argo-Leblanc et il dit qu'en ce qui concerne ARGO, nous n'avons aucun espoir de récupérer notre argent.

Il fait allusion au logement, autrement dit, il parle non pas du travail proprement dit mais du service.

> Ils ne s'intéressent qu'aux salaires et à la main-d'œuvre. Je pense qu'à ce stade, puisque vous avez soulevé cette question à la Chambre, nous, les petits, nous n'y pouvons rien contre les gros.

Le président: A l'ordre, s'il vous plaît.

[*Text*]

Mr. Trudel: Mr. Chairman, I have every sympathy for the hotel keeper or the innkeeper but I fail to see at this time how this can be related to the subcontractor. It is a service that has been arranged between the subcontractor and the hotel keeper but in no way, shape or form, in my mind—and I stand to be corrected here by the learned profession—do I see how this is a part of the subcontract.

The Chairman: Let us hear from Mr. Brittain.

Mr. Brittain: I believe I would have to agree that this, sir, is a matter between the prime contractor and his subscontractor. The Crown enters into the contract with the prime contractor and ensures that the adequate surety bonds are provided to protect the subcontractor. Now if the prime contractor has a problem with the subcontractor that is a responsibility that the prime contractor must bear and not the Crown.

Mr. Alkenbrack: Mr. Chairman, neither one of these gentlemen, the member nor the witness, have shown the least insight into this matter because of the answers they have given. In fact, the remarks made and the answers given by Mr. Brittain contribute nothing to the solution of this case.

I submit, Mr. Chairman, since the government the other night, on February 25, undertook to make good all bad cheques of Leblanc Inc. the subcontractor, who they failed to bond in the first place, they can also make good $1,099 that they owe Mr.

• 1600

Savage, the proprietor of Millhaven Inn. That is what the unbonded subcontractor owes Mr. Savage. If this Committee, or the witnesses here from Treasury Board, will not stir any further to assist us in collecting this money. I will have to put the matter before the House once again.

The Chairman: Mr. Alkenbrack, I do not believe that it is the responsibility of the Committee to see that the person mentioned in your letter is reimbursed. We are here to put through a bill. It is relevant to the bill, of course, but it is a particular case. I think, therefore, that the best thing for you to do is exactly what you mentioned, which is to debate it in the House which, to my mind, is the proper place. Mr. Hales?

Mr. Hales: Mr. Chairman, it says that the prime contractor must be bonded but there is nothing there to say that the subcontractor should likewise be bonded. This is the issue, I think.

Mr. Brittain: Are you saying that the prime contractor should require bonding by the subcontractor?

[*Interpretation*]

M. Trudel: Monsieur le président, je comprends très bien l'hôtelier mais je ne vois absolument pas en quoi cela a un rapport avec le sous-entrepreneur parce que c'est un accord passé entre l'hôtelier et le sous-entrepreneur mais pour moi, j'accepte d'être corrigé si je me trompe, mais je pense pour ma part qu'il ne s'agit pas là du sous-contrat, ça ne fait pas partie du sous-contrat.

Le président: Qu'est-ce que vous en pensez monsieur Brittain?

M. Brittain: Je crois reconnaître que c'est là une question qui est à régler entre l'entrepreneur général et son sous-entrepreneur. La Couronne signe un contrat avec l'entrepreneur général et s'assure que celui-ci fournisse des cautionnements suffisants pour protéger le sous-entrepreneur. Maintenant, si l'entrepreneur général a un problème avec son sous-entrepreneur c'est une responsabilité que l'entrepreneur général envisage et non la Couronne.

M. Alkenbrack: Monsieur le président, ni le membre, ni le témoin ne savent exactement ce qui s'est passé dans cette question d'après les réponses qu'ils ont données et en fait les remarques que nous avons entendues, les réponses de M. Brittain n'apportent absolument rien pour la solution de la question.

Alors, si le gouvernement, l'autre jour, le 25 février, s'était engagé à rembourser tous les chèques sans provisions de Leblanc Inc. le sous-entrepreneur, de qui il n'a pas reçu de cautionnement en premier lieu, eh bien, il pourrait également valider les $1,099 qui sont dus à M. Savage, propriétaire de l'auberge de Millhaven, c'est ce qui est dû par le sous-entrepreneur sans cautionnement à M. Savage. Si notre comité ou le témoin du Trésor ne tient pas à nous éclairer davantage ou permettre de recouvrer cet argent, je tiens à soulever cette question devant la Chambre.

Le président: Monsieur Alkenbrack, je ne crois pas que cela incombe au Comité de voir à ce que l'argent, comme mentionné dans votre lettre, soit remboursé. C'est une question qui se rapporte au bill, bien entendu mais c'est un cas particulier. Alors, la meilleure des choses, dans votre propre intérêt, serait de soulever la question à la Chambre. C'est à mon avis l'endroit approprié pour un tel débat.

M. Hales: Il y a un article de la loi qui stipule que le premier entrepreneur doit présenter des garanties, mais il n'y a rien qui oblige que le sous-entrepreneur doive lui aussi présenter des garanties. C'est là le problème.

M. Brittain: Voulez-vous dire que l'entrepreneur principal devrait demander des garanties au sous-traitant?

[*Texte*]

Mr. Hales: No. First of all, is the prime contractor in all government contracts bonded?

Mr. Brittain: He must take out a bond.

Mr. Hales: Right. Is there anything, anywhere in government legislation, to say that the subcontractors must be bonded as well?

Mr. Brittain: No, there is not.

Mr. Hales: Well, the question is: why do we not make it compulsory that subcontractors carry a bond as well? Then this situation that Mr. Alkenbrack speaks of would be taken care of.

An hon. Member: Hear, hear.

Mr. Hales: I think this is the issue.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. Chairman, we are dealing with the insertion of a proposed new part to the Financial Administration Act which relates to the assignement of debts due the Crown under the labour and material payment bonds, which the prime contractor entering into a government contract is required to secure to protect subcontractors and suppliers. The objective of this amendment is to give the Crown the legislative authority to assign to the claimant whose interests are protected by these labour and material payment bonds the Crown's right to sue the bonding company in the event that payments due the claimant have not been made by either the prime contractor or the bonding company. The whole matter of bonds and security deposits and their administration, of course, is covered under the government contract regulation which provides for bid bonds, the labour and material payment bonds, performance bonds and security deposits.

Mr. Hales: That is for prime contractors only.

Mr. Brittain: Prime contractors.

Mr. Hales: But nowhere are the subcontractors required to take out such bonds.

Mr. Brittain: No, presumably because the contract is between the Crown and the prime contractor.

Mr. Hales: That is not good enough.

The Chairman: Mr. Peddle?

Mr. Peddle: But does the prime contractor not have the responsibility for the performance of the subcontractors?

Mr. Brittain: The prime contractor has the responsibility, which he guarantees by his bond, for performance of the work covered by the contract which he enters into with the Crown.

[*Interprétation*]

M. Hales: Non. Exige-t-on du contracteur principal une garantie?

M. Brittain: Il doit donner une garantie.

M. Hales: Y a-t-il une loi qui stipule que le sous-traitant doit présenter une garantie?

M. Brittain: Non.

M. Hales: Alors, pourquoi n'exigeons-nous pas que les sous-entrepreneurs fournissent eux aussi une garantie? Voilà la situation que M. Alkenbrack veut souligner.

Une voix: Bravo, bravo.

M. Hales: Voilà le problème.

M. Brittain: M. le président, nous parlons de l'incorporation d'une nouvelle disposition dans la Loi de l'administration financière. Il s'agit d'une question de garantie où les entrepreneurs bénéficient des contrats gouvernementaux; et dans une clause aussi visant à protéger les sous-traitants. Cet amendement vise à donner à la Couronne l'autorité législative d'assurer la protection des intérêts du plaignant, et, afin que la Couronne ait le droit de poursuivre la compagnie de garantie au cas où les montants qui auraient dû être versés au plaignant n'auraient pas été honorés, ni par l'entrepreneur, ni par la compagnie de garantie. Toute la question des dépôts de cautions et de garanties et de leur administration, bien sûr, est couverte par les règlements du gouvernement concernant les contrats régissant les dépôts de garantie pour les soumissions, les garanties pour le paiement du travail et du matériel, pour le service, et les dépôts de garantie.

M. Hales: Ceci concerne uniquement l'entrepreneur principal.

M. Brittain: L'entrepreneur principal.

M. Hales: Mais il n'est indiqué nulle part que les sous-traitants doivent souscrire à une telle garantie.

M. Brittain: Non. Certainement du fait que le contrat est signé entre la Couronne et l'entrepreneur principal.

M. Hales: Ce n'est pas assez.

Le président: Monsieur Peddle.

M. Peddle: Mais n'est-il pas vrai que l'entrepreneur principal est responsable du travail des sous-traitants?

M. Brittain: L'entrepreneur principal a la responsabilité du travail effectué en vertu du contrat qu'il a signé avec la Couronne, ce à quoi sa garantie pourvoit.

[*Text*]

Mr. Peddle: Including the subcontracts which are part of his contract.

Mr. Brittain: Right.

The Chairman: Mr. Trudel?

Mr. Trudel: Mr. Chairman, coming back to the remarks that were made earlier, it is not that I am disputing the claims that are made by the hotelkeeper, but I fail to see whether or not the bond is part and parcel of the main contract. We cannot still include in this the payments for the services that you have mentioned. This is the point that I was making. We may wish to amend it, and I am in full sympathy with the statements that you have made, but I fail to see how the existing legislation or even

• 1605

the amendments that you are proposing would solve the problem that you are faced with because it is for the performance of the actual contract or the performance of the subcontractor, but not the expenses that he may entail elsewhere in obtaining services outside of this contract. That is the point that I was trying to make.

Whether we have a bond or we do not have a bond would not entitle this man to claim against this subcontractor for services other than the ones that are specifically mentioned in the prime contract.

The Chairman: Mr. Goode?

Mr. Goode: Mr. Chairman, as a former small subcontractor myself, I would take great offence to having to be bonded every time I did a small $1,000 or $2,000 government job. I think the system requiring contractors to cover everybody except perhaps in minor situations and to force every small contractor or subcontractor across this land to get bonds from very, very difficult bonding companies would force government contractors to do business with only big subcontractors, and you would be doing a greater injustice to the people of Canada by forcing this upon them than by having these minor little things happen once in a while. I think what you are suggesting is more critical than solving the little problem that you have. I think if you think about it for a moment, you will agree with me.

Mr. Alkenbrack: Mr. Chairman, I wish to state in answer to that that there is nothing minor about the loss of $30,000 in being handed rubber cheques–NSF cheques–in my account. In the case of The Millhaven Inn, I will go further. I have some more evidence here that I wish to put on the record. He says, "Would it be possible for you to let us know who we may claim to for payment as we also have cheques and bills to the amount of $1,099 for cottage rents–"

[*Interpretation*]

M. Peddle: Y compris les sous-contrats faisant partie de son contrat?

M. Brittain: C'est ça.

Le président: Monsieur Trudel.

M. Trudel: Monsieur le président, pour revenir aux remarques qui ont été faites auparavant, je ne veux pas contester les réclamations qui ont été produites par le propriétaire de l'hôtel, mais je ne vois pas si oui ou non les garanties font partie du contrat principal. Nous ne pouvons quand même pas inclure dans les paiements les services que vous avez mentionnés. C'est là le point que je veux souligner. Nous pouvons peut-être modifier cet article, et je sympathise fortement avec les déclarations que vous avec faites, mais je n'arrive pas à voir comment la présente loi ou même les modifications que vous voulez proposer pourront résoudre le problème qui vous concerne. Car la garantie vise l'exécution du contrat réel ou les travaux effectués par le sous-traitant, mais ne couvre pas les dépenses qu'il peut faire à l'extérieur aux fins d'obtenir des services en dehors des dispositions de son contrat.

C'est là le véritable problème. Que nous ayons une garantie ou non, ne permettra pas à cet homme de réclamer au sous-traitant un montant pour des services autres que ceux qui sont spécifiquement mentionnés dans le contrat principal.

Le président: Monsieur Goode.

M. Goode: Monsieur le président, étant moi-même un ancien petit entrepreneur sous-traitant, je tiendrais rigueur à quelqu'un qui m'aurait demandé une garantie pour chaque petit travail de $1,000 ou $2,000, effectué pour le compte du gouvernement. Je pense que le système qui veut que les entrepreneurs couvrent tout le monde à l'exception peut-être des situations mineures et que les petits entrepreneurs ou sous-traitants à travers le pays soient forcés de donner des garanties, arriverait à obliger les entrepreneurs du gouvernement à faire affaires uniquement avec les grands sous-traitants. Ainsi, vous créeriez une grande injustice envers les Canadiens en les soumettant à un tel régime pour des petites choses qui n'arrivent que de temps à autre. Je pense que ce que vous proposez complique davantage le problème plutôt que de le résoudre. Si vous vous y arrêtez quelques instants, je pense que vous serez d'accord avec moi.

M. Alkenbrack: Monsieur le président, il me semble juste pour répondre à ce qui vient d'être dit, que l'on ne peut pas parler de choses mineures lorsqu'il s'agit de la perte de $30,000. Dans le cas de l'affaire Mill Haven Inn, j'irais même plus loin. Il y a certaines preuves que j'aimerais verser au compte rendu. Mon commettant me dit: «Serait-il possible pour vous de me faire savoir à qui nous pourrions réclamer les chèques sans fonds et les factures au montant de $1,099, pour la location de maisons? »

[*Texte*]

The Chairman: Mr. Alkenbrack, I am sorry, but I do not believe that we are the right people to study and to rule on that case.

Mr. Alkenbrack: I submit, Mr. Chairman, that I am still in order. I am still talking about the adverse effect of the actions of this subcontractor on my community.

I am quoting from Mr. Savage's letter, the proprietor of The Millhaven Inn. He says, "These cheques and bills have put us in financial difficulties, more so at this time of the year." That is all I have to say.

The Chairman: Shall Clause 17 carry?

Mr. Alkenbrack: Mr. Chairman, could I ask Mr. Brittain what Treasury Board intends to do about this? Are they going to include subcontractors and require them to be bonded in the future? Are they willing to include these cheques for services in the payments that they are going to make to clean up this mess up there? Or are you going to go merrily on the same as you have been, not bonding these doubtful characters that come in from . . .

The Chairman: I think, Mr. Alkenbrack, that the witness can only explain those amendments that we are making in this bill. I do not believe he can answer all your questions, or do you wish to answer?

Mr. Brittain: I think it would be quite presumptuous of me, sir, to suggest what the Treasury Board might or might not be contemplating in this area.

Mr. Alkenbrack: Well, they have agreed to make amends for up to $30,000, it says, for labour only. Are they going to clean up the rest of the mess, namely, this one for $1,099 for services to the subcontractor's personnel?

The Chairman: Mr. McBride?

Mr. McBride: Is it permissible to ask a question of Mr. Alkenbrack?

The Chairman: Yes, through the chair it is all right.

Mr. McBride: If I might and if Mr. Alkenbrack would answer, was this bill at this inn taken under the name of the subcontractor and then he provided these facilities free to his employees, or was this accumulated from a number of individuals who went and lived there and who happened to be working for a contractor who happened to go broke? Do you

• 1610

get the point of my question? Was it a bill directly

[*Interprétation*]

Le président: Monsieur Alkenbrack, je suis désolé, mais je crois que nous ne sommes pas là pour étudier et trancher ce cas.

M. Alkenbrack: Monsieur le président, il me semble que je ne déroge pas au Règlement. Je parle toujours des effets nocifs des actes commis par ce sous-traitant dans ma localité.

Je cite la lettre de M. Savage, propriétaire du Mill Haven Inn, qui dit: «Ces chèques et ces factures ont eu pour effet de nous mettre dans des difficultés financières très critiques à cette période de l'année.» C'est tout ce que j'ai à dire.

Le président: L'article 17 est-il adopté?

M. Alkenbrack: Monsieur le président, pourrais-je demander à M. Brittain, ce que le Conseil du Trésor compte faire envers ce cas? Le Conseil du Trésor demandera-t-il à l'avenir aux sous-traitants des garanties? Voudra-t-il inclure ces chèques dans les paiements qu'il se propose de faire afin de réparer les dégâts qui ont été commis? Ou va-t-il continuer à fonctionner de la même façon, sans demander des garanties à ces gens douteux qui viennent de . . .

Le président: Je crois, monsieur Alkenbrack, que le témoin peut uniquement expliquer les modifications que nous voulons apporter à ce projet de loi. Je ne crois pas qu'il puisse apporter une réponse à toutes vos questions. A moins que M. Brittain veuille y répondre?

M. Brittain: Je pense que cela serait fort présomptueux de ma part, de suggérer au Conseil du Trésor comment agir dans ce cas.

M. Alkenbrack: Vous avez bien décidé de réparer les dégâts pour un montant de $30,000. Le Conseil du Trésor voudra-t-il finir de réparer cette gaffe, en ce qui concerne ces $1,099 dus par le personnel du sous-traitant?

Le président: Monsieur McBride?

M. McBride: Puis-je poser une question à M. Alkenbrack?

Le président: Oui.

M. McBride: Monsieur le président, si je peux, et si M. Alkenbrack veut bien me répondre, puis-je savoir si les factures de l'hôtel au nom du sous-traitant veulent dire que ledit sous-traitant procurait à ses employés ces installations gratuitement, ou si ces factures ont été accumulées par plusieurs personnes qui ont logé à cet endroit et qui se trouvaient travailler pour le compte de l'entrepreneur qui a fait faillite? Comprenez-

[*Text*]

with the subcontractor or was it a matter of some individuals who did not pay their hotel bill?

Mr. Alkenbrack: They were some of his key personnel who were moved up there from Quebec to look after his interests on the subcontract.

Mr. McBride: That may be a crucial question.

Mr. Alkenbrack: They paid their lodging and services accounts to Mr. Savage in the form of cheques written on the company of D. Leblanc Inc.

The Chairman: Mr. Goode?

Mr. Goode: Having done this many times myself, I think that what has happened here is that when a man goes out of town he pays his men wages plus room and board. Now that is part of wages and indeed the man must pay income tax on it. Consequently, these men are liable to that inkeeper for their room and board—it does not matter what position they hold with the company—other than the owner. Consequently, when the government makes good for the labour, they will undoubtedly make good for the room and board. It is all part and parcel.

Mr. Alkenbrack: I hope so.

The Chairman: It is one problem that we cannot settle here.

Clauses 17 to 20 inclusive agreed to.

Clause 1 agreed to.

The Chairman: Mr. Hales?

Mr. Hales: I would like to revert to Clause 7, 23(1), that deal with "Uncollectable debts" due to the Crown. This is a Clause where the Committee is being asked to agree to lowering the amounts owing to the Crown in the proposed Section 23. Let me put it this way:

> . . . *deletion* from the accounts, in whole or in part, *of* any obligation or debt due to Her Majesty or any claim by Her Majesty that does not exceed *five* thousand dollars.

We had considerable discussion about this at our first meeting and I think—and I am presuming something when I say this—the general feeling was that raising this to $5,000 was not necessary and that we should leave the Act as it is so that all debts owing under $1,000 cannot be deleted.

The Chairman: Mr. Clermont?

[*Interpretation*]

vous ma question? Les factures étaient-elles faites au nom du sous-traitant ou au nom de son personnel qui n'a pas acquitté cesdites factures?

M. Alkenbrack: Certaines de ces factures étaient au nom du personnel de direction qui avait été transféré de la province de Québec aux fins de veiller à la bonne marche du sous-contrat.

M. McBride: C'est peut-être là le point critique.

M. Alkenbrack: Ils ont payé leur logement et les services rendus par M. Savage au moyen de chèques au nom de la société D. Leblanc, Inc.

Le président: Monsieur Goode.

M. Goode: J'ai fait cela plusieurs fois moi-même. Ce qui est arrivé ici, c'est que lorsqu'un entrepreneur obtient des travaux en dehors de sa propre localité, il paie à ses ouvriers leurs salaires plus le logement et la subsistance. Maintenant, le logement et la subsistance constituent une partie du salaire, et l'ouvrier en question doit payer l'impôt sur le revenu. Alors, ces hommes sont redevables de leurs frais de logement, peu importe leur poste au sein de la compagnie. Alors, lorsque le gouvernement accorde des avantages à la main-d'œuvre, cela s'étend aussi aux chambres et à la pension. C'en est une partie intégrante.

M. Alkenbrack: Je l'espère.

Le président: C'est un problème que nous ne pouvons régler ici.

Les articles 17 à 20 inclusivement sont approuvés.

L'article 1 est approuvé.

Le président: Monsieur Hales?

M. Hales: Je tiens à retourner à l'article 7, 23 (1), qui parle des «dettes irrécouvrables» dont la Couronne est bénéficiaire. C'est un article où on demande au Comité de réduire les sommes dues à la Couronne, d'après le projet d'article 23. Voici:

> . . . à *retrancher des* comptes, en totalité ou en partie, toute obligation ou dette envers Sa Majesté ou toute réclamation de Sa Majesté qui n'excède pas *cinq* mille dollars.

Nous avons eu beaucoup de discussions à ce sujet à notre première séance,—et je suis peut-être présomptueux en le disant,—mais je pense que, d'une façon générale, on acceptait le fait que porter cette somme à $5,000 n'était pas nécessaire et que nous devrions laisser la loi telle quelle, de sorte que toutes les dettes de moins de $1,000 ne puissent être supprimées.

Le président: Monsieur Clermont?

[*Texte*]

M. Clermont: J'invoque le Règlement, monsieur le président. Vous n'avez pas mis l'article 21 aux voix. Vous avez mis l'article 20 aux voix, mais non l'article 21.

Clause 21 agreed to.

Mr. Hales: When we asked the witnesses that day approximately how many accounts would be involved in this change I think he said in a six-month period there would be roughly 2,500. One of the reasons given to the Committee was that it would facilitate the efficiency of the Department if they did not have to list all those amounts under $5,000.

I would like to hear some views from the Committee on this. All members were not present that day and I am prepared to move an amendment that it remain at the $1,000 level rather than being increased to $5,000, but perhaps you would like some discussion on this first.

The Chairman: Mr. Clermont?

M. Clermont: M. Hales parle de 2,000 cas; mais je crois qu'il y avait une autre division. Je pense que dans les cas de $1,000 et plus, pour six mois, c'était environ 400, n'est-ce pas monsieur Brittain?

Mr. Brittain: Yes.

M. Clermont: Je suggérerais, monsieur le président, que M. Hales propose un amendement que le comité pourrait étudier.

The Chairman: Are you ready with the amendment, Mr. Hales?

Mr. Hales: In a moment, Mr. Chairman.

The Chairman: In the meantime, perhaps we could have some statistics regarding this matter. Do you have any, Mr. Brittain?

Mr. Brittain: If I may, I will quote again the statistics that were used by the Minister when he spoke to this Clause. He mentioned that for a six-month period in 1968-69 the review of debts considered uncollectable that exceeded $100, but were less than $1,000, numbered 2,042; those which exceeded $1,000 up to $5,000 numbered 419 and those over $5,000 numbered 147.

The Chairman: Mr. Clermont?

M. Clermont: Monsieur le président, peu importe le plafond, il faut qu'en fin de compte, il soit accepté par le Conseil du Trésor. Que le montant soit de $1,000 ou de $5,000, la décision finale appartient au Conseil du Trésor.

[*Interprétation*]

Mr. Clermont: Mr. Chairman, on a point of order. You did not call clause 21 yet. You called clause 20, but not clause 21.

L'article 21 est adopté.

M. Hales: Lorsque nous avons demandé au témoin, ce jour-là, combien de comptes seront visés par ce changement, je crois qu'il a dit que, sur une période de six mois, il y en aurait environ 2,500. Une des raisons qu'on a données au Comité, c'est que cela faciliterait l'efficacité du ministère en lui permettant de négliger les montants inférieurs à $5,000.

J'aimerais que le Comité se prononce là-dessus. Les membres n'étaient pas tous présents ce jour-là et je serais disposé, pour ma part, à proposer que le montant reste à $1,000 plutôt que d'être augmenté à $5,000. Mais peut-être aimeriez-vous en discuter d'abord.

Le président: Monsieur Clermont?

Mr. Clermont: Mr. Hales mentioned 2,500 cases, but I believe there was another division. I think that in cases over $1,000, for six months, it was about 400 cases, wasn't it Mr. Brittain?

M. Brittain: Oui

Mr. Clermont: Mr. Chairman, I would suggest that Mr. Hales should propose an amendment that the Committee could study.

Le président: Êtes-vous prêt à déposer l'amendement, monsieur Hales?

M. Hales: Dans un moment, monsieur le président.

Le président: Entre-temps, peut-être pourrait-on avoir des statistiques sur cette question. En avez-vous, monsieur Brittain?

M. Brittain: Si vous le permettez, je vais citer encore les statistiques qui ont été évoquées par le ministre lorsqu'il a commenté cet article-là. Il a dit que pendant six mois, en 1968-1969, la révision des dettes considérées comme irrécouvrables a révélé que les dettes supérieures à $100, mais inférieures à $1000, sont au nombre de 2,042; les dettes de $1000 à $5000 sont au nombre de 419, et les dettes supérieures à $5,000 sont au nombre de 147.

Le président: Monsieur Clermont?

Mr. Clermont: Mr. Chairman, I think that regardless of the ceiling, it must, in the end, be accepted by the Treasury Board. Whether the amount is $1,000 or $5,000, the final decision rests with the Treasury Board.

[*Text*]

Mr. Brittain: Mr. Chairman one of the two purposes of this amendment is to increase the limits of the Governor in Council's power to delete debts from $1,000 or less, to $5,000 or less. Therefore, we are referring here to the Governor in Council.

M. Clermont: Monsieur le président, M. Brittain pourrait-il expliquer, en quelques mots, pourquoi cet amendement est dans ce Bill? Monsieur Brittain, il doit y avoir une raison. Je crois que la limite de $1,000 existe depuis au moins dix ou quinze ans. Pourriez-vous nous expliquer, en quelques mots, pourquoi le gouvernement propose que cette limite de $1,000 soit augmentée à $5,000. Il doit y avoir une raison.

Le président: Monsieur Brittain?

Mr. Brittain: Mr. Chairman, as was explained during the last meeting, the amount of $1,000 was set no less than 10 years ago, and the Minister said he believed it was closer to 20 years ago, so the first reason, then, is to reflect the change in value since that time. Furthermore, the procedure which precedes this action is a very thorough one.

After the Department has exhausted all of its facilities in attempting to collect the debt, it then puts forward a proposal for deletion to the Debts Committee, which at the moment is chaired by the Comptroller of the Treasury and made up mainly of legal advisers of major departments. Then they individually examine each debt that is proposed for deletion to ensure that the proposal is reasonable and that all reasonable steps have been taken to collect the debt by the Department.

Occasionally the Committee will turn back a case to the Department with a suggestion that they might try some other approach to collecting the debt. Those debts which come forward—and the majority do come forward—do so after having been pursued vigorously by the Department. The Department then provides the evidence of what it has done to the Debts Committee. The Debts Committee reviews every single case to ensure that everything possible has been done, and only then is a case presented first to the Treasury Board and, if the Ministers of the Board approve, then to the Governor in Council for deletion of the debt from the accounts.

• 1620

I should add that this is a deletion of debts from the account to make the accounts of Canada more realistic. It does not in any way cancel a debt. In fact, the debt remains a debt and follow-up action continues wherever this is possible, and if a person or a firm becomes solvent once again, this debt is pursued.

[*Interpretation*]

M. Brittain: Monsieur le président, un des deux buts de cette modification, c'est d'accroître le pouvoir du gouverneur en conseil de supprimer les dettes de $1,000 ou moins à $5,000 ou moins. Il s'agit donc ici du gouverneur en conseil.

Mr. Clermont: Mr. Chairman, would Mr. Brittain care to explain in a few words why this amendment is incorporated in this bill?

Mr. Brittain, there must be a reason for that. I believe that the $1,000 ceiling exists since at least 10 or 15 years. Could you explain to us in a few words why the government proposes that this $1,000 ceiling should be raised to $5,000. There must be a reason for that.

The Chairman: Mr. Brittain?

Mr. Brittain: Monsieur le président, comme on l'a expliqué lors de la dernière séance, le chiffre de $1,000 a été établi il y a moins de dix ans, et plutôt il y a vingt ans, selon le ministre; alors, la première raison, c'est pour traduire la fluctuation des valeurs depuis lors. En outre, la procédure qui a précédé cette décision est très complète. Après que le ministère a épuisé tous les moyens pour se faire rembourser, il a alors proposé au comité des dettes qu'on remette ces dettes; ce comité est présidé pour le moment par le Contrôleur du Trésor et constitué surtout de conseillers juridiques des plus importants ministères. Ce comité a examiné chaque dette qu'on voulait supprimer pour s'assurer que la proposition était raisonnable et que toutes les mesures voulues ont été prises par le ministère pour recouvrer les dettes.

Parfois, le comité confiait un cas au ministère en proposant d'autres formules pour se faire rembourser ces dettes. Et la majorité de ces dettes ont été remboursées, après les poursuites vigoureuses intentées par le ministère, qui a ensuite démontré au comité des dettes les mesures qu'il avait prises. Ainsi, le comité des dettes examine chaque cas individuellement pour s'assurer que toutes les mesures voulues ont été prises. C'est à ce moment-là seulement qu'on soumet le cas, d'abord au Conseil du Trésor et ensuite, si les ministres du Conseil l'approuvent, au gouverneur en conseil qui décide de retrancher la dette des comptes.

Je devrais ajouter qu'on retranche ces dettes des comptes du Canada pour rendre ceux-ci plus réalistes. On n'annule pas la dette. En fait, la dette demeure une dette et on continue à prendre des mesures pour tenter de la recouvrer, pour autant que cela est possible. Et si une personne, ou une entreprise, devient solvable à nouveau, eh bien, à ce moment-là, on tente de recouvrer la dette.

[*Texte*]

As the Minister explained, there are many, many cases such as where a firm may go bankrupt and disappear; a person dies and there is no estate; a person leaves the country and is beyond reach and untraceable. These then, become debts that are deleted.

Le président: Monsieur Clermont.

M. Clermont: Monsieur le président, lorsque, au cours d'une année financière, un certain nombre de comptes recevables sont rayés de la liste des comptes recevables, je crois qu'une liste est émise pour vérification puisque cette liste devient un document public?

Le président: De toute façon, M. Brittain vient de nous l'affirmer.

The Chairman: Clause 7 was carried, so you cannot put foward an amendment. You can discuss the entire bill when we discuss Clause 1, whatever you want to discuss, it is an open discussion, but I cannot accept an amendment to Clause 7 because it has already been carried. You cannot make an amendment to Clause 7 through Clause 1. Clause 1 was reserved, and that it is why I mentioned at the beginning that we could speak on the entire aspect of the bill when we discussed Clause 1, and Clause 1 was reserved, but if the clauses are carried they are carried. We cannot come back to them.

Mr. Hales: Did the Committee pass proposed Section 23 (1), making this change to $5,000?

The Chairman: Clause 7 was carried, Mr. Hales.

Mr. Hales: Then it is too late to make an amendment.

The Chairman: All the clauses are now carried aside from Clause 1, the preamble and the title.

Mr. Hales: There is no point in arguing it.

The Chairman: No. You can discuss the matter if you wish, that is why we reserved Clause 1.

Mr. Hales: I will discuss the matter, then.

The Chairman: Very well.

Mr. Hales: Mr. Brittain tells us that when an account is deleted it is still owing to the Crown, but let me remind the members of this Committee and the members of Treasury Board that they know as well as we do that once an account is deleted and put aside, it is forgotten. It is only human nature

[*Interprétation*]

Comme le ministre l'a expliqué, il y a plusieurs cas où une entreprise peut faire faillite et disparaître, une personne peut décéder et il n'y a pas de succession, une personne peut quitter le pays et ne peut être retrouvée. A ce moment-là, c'est une dette qui est retranchée.

The Chairman: Mr. Clermont.

Mr. Clermont: Mr. Chairman, when during a fiscal year a certain number of accounts receivable are deleted from the list of the receivable accounts, I think there is a list that is published for verification, and that this list becomes a public document?

The Chairman: Anyway, Mr. Brittain has just stated so.

Le président: L'article 7 du bill a été approuvé, par conséquent, vous ne pouvez proposer d'amendement. Vous pouvez discuter de l'ensemble du bill lorsqu'il sera question de l'article 1, c'est une discussion ouverte, mais je ne peux accepter de proposition d'amendement, l'article 7 car il a déjà été approuvé. Vous ne pouvez proposer un amendement à l'article 7 du bill à l'aide de l'article 1.

L'article 1 a été mis en réserve c'est pourquoi j'ai dit au début de la réunion que nous pouvions parler sur les aspects globaux du bill quand il sera question de discuter de l'article 1 et l'article 1 a été réservé, mais une fois que les articles du bill sont approuvés nous ne pouvons pas y revenir.

M. Hales: Le comité a-t-il approuvé le nouvel article 23(1) portant le montant à $5,000?

Le président: L'article 7 a été approuvé monsieur Hales.

M. Hales: Donc il est trop tard pour faire une proposition d'amendement.

Le président: A présent, tous les articles du bill sont approuvés, à l'exception de l'article 1, du préambule et du titre.

M. Hales: Il ne sert à rien de discuter alors?

Le président: Non. Vous pouvez en discuter si vous voulez, mais c'est pourquoi nous avons mis en réserve l'article 1.

M. Hales: Je vais discuter de la question, alors.

Le président: Très bien.

M. Hales: M. Brittain nous dit que lorsque des comptes sont abandonnés, il y a toujours une somme qui est due à la Couronne, mais permettez-moi de rappeler aux membres du Comité et aux membres du Conseil du Trésor qu'ils savent aussi bien que nous qu'une fois qu'un compte est abandonné et est mis de

[*Text*]

that once you take it out of the general accounts receivable ledger and move it over into the deleted section, to a certain extent it is forgotten and there is less effort put towards collecting that amount. I do not think we need to have any doubt about that.

I think we should regulate in the greatest detail the collection of all funds owing to the Crown and we should not make it easy for the treasury department or any government official to set it aside and say that this account is uncollectable and we are going to delete it from the accounts of Canada and we have put it to one side. We are now going to raise that to $5,000, so they will put more of them to one side and there will be a greater chance than ever of their being forgotten and there will be fewer of them collected and there will be more money owing to the Crown than there ever was before.

I have expressed my view.

The Chairman: Do you mind if Mr. Brittain makes a short comment on the matter you mentioned, Mr. Hales?

Mr. Hales: No.

Mr. Brittain: Mr. Hales, I feel I cannot completely agree with the statement that no effort is made to collect an uncollectable debt . . .

Mr. Hales: May I change that to less effort rather than no effort.

• 1625

Mr. Brittain: Because there are system available which I cannot describe in detail. The point I wanted to make was purely for information purposes, and it is this. It is not the function of the Treasury Board to pursue each individual debt which has been deleted. It is the responsibility of the department involved. For example, in an income tax case it is the responsibility of the Department of National Revenue to follow up each of its cases.

Mr. Hales: You appeared before this Committee and asked us to write off $7.25 million in these supplementary estimates. They appear on page 24. Perhaps the expression "write off" is not correct, but we are forgiving or, as it says here:

> Debts due to Her Majesty to be written off as a charge to expenditures: . . .

Mr. Brittain: Yes, but that is not forgiving, sir. The point I was attempting to make was that neither the Treasury Board not the treasury is responsible for

[*Interpretation*]

côté, on l'oublie tout simplement. C'est tout naturel. Une fois que vous les éliminez de la liste de vos comptes recevables et que vous les mettez dans la section des comptes abandonnés, ces comptes sont oubliés, et l'on ne fait presque rien pour tenter de recouvrer cette somme. Et, je ne pense pas que nous devrions avoir des doutes à ce sujet.

Nous devrions tenter de réglementer jusque dans les détails, le recouvrement de toutes les sommes qui sont dues à la Couronne et nous ne devrions pas rendre plus facile le travail du ministère du Trésor ou d'autres hauts fonctionnaires du gouvernement de mettre de côté des comptes en disant tout simplement: «Ce compte est irrecouvrable. Alors, nous allons le laisser de côté. Et nous allons permettre que le total puisse être accru jusqu'à $5,000.» Il y aura donc un plus grand nombre de comptes mis de côté avec un plus grand risque que ces comptes soient oubliés. Il y aura de moins en moins de comptes qui seront recouvrés, et les fonds qui reviennent à la Couronne iront en augmentant.

Voilà mon opinion personnelle.

Le président: Si vous le voulez bien monsieur Hales, monsieur Brittain aimerait commenter brièvement ce que vous venez de dire.

M. Hales: Oui certainement.

M. Brittain: Monsieur Hales. Je ne suis pas tout à fait d'avis avec vous quand vous dites qu'aucun effort n'a été fait pour recouvrer une dette irrecouvrable.

M. Hales: Disons donc qu'il y a eu moins d'effort, au lieu de «pas d'effort».

M. Brittain: Nous disposons de systèmes que je ne puis décrire ici en détail. Ce que je voulais dire était à titre d'information et je dirai ceci: Ce n'est pas au Conseil du Trésor de tenter de récupérer chaque dette particulière qui a été abandonnée. C'est la responsabilité du ministère impliqué. Par exemple, dans le cas de l'impôt sur le revenu c'est au ministère du Revenu national qu'incombe la tâche de recouvrer les sommes qui lui sont dues.

M. Hales: Vous vous êtes présenté devant ce Comité et vous nous avez demandé de biffer $7.25 millions du budget supplémentaire. Ces détails se trouvent en page 24. Peut-être le terme «biffer» n'est pas exact; nous aurions dû lire, remettre les dettres ou, comme c'est écrit ici:

> Réclamations de Sa Majesté, à radier, qui ne figurent pas dans l'état de l'actif et du passif . . .

M. Brittain: Oui, mais cela ne veut pas dire remettre des dettes. Ce que j'ai voulu souligner, c'est que ni le Conseil du trésor ni le Trésor n'est supposé recouvrer

[*Texte*]

following up on individual debts which may be deleted, including those contained in the supplementary estimates. It is the responsibility of the individual department to pursue deleted debts.

Mr. Hales: Are you prepared to come to this Committee a year from now, and tell us how much of this $7.25 million you have collected since we wrote it off?

Mr. Brittain: I believe it would be quite impossible to produce such a figure.

Mr. Hales: Do you mean to say you do not keep track of the amounts that are paid on these?

Mr. Brittain: The individual departments certainly do.

Mr. Hales: Then why would it not be possible for you to come back a year from now and say, "Gentlemen, you wrote off $7.25 million last year, and since then we have collected X number of dollars of that"?

Mr. Brittain: Mr. Chairman, these debts which appear as uncollectable have been uncollectable for many years. I have no idea if it would be possible to relate them year by year; that is, amounts that have since been collected with amounts that were uncollectable. As I say, this is a departmental responsibility and not the responsibility of the Board.

Mr. Hales: Could the various departments come back a year from now and say,"We have been able to collect X number of dollars of what has been written off"?

Mr. Brittain: I think it would only be if special arrangements were made to do it, Mr. Hales.

Mr. Hales: This is some way to keep the books of Canada, believe me. I had no idea the books of Canada would be kept this way. Any business that sets aside an account as uncollectable still keeps a ledger, and when any money is paid a notation is made and at the end of the year they are able to say, "On the accounts we have written off we have been able to collect X number of dollars". Surely we can do that in the business of Canada.

Mr. Brittain: I am not in a position to speak for the 20-odd departments of government with respect to how they maintain their control accounts, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. Hales: Where are we going to get this information? It is pretty important. Where would you suggest the Committee get that information? I am addressing Mr. Brittain.

[*Interprétation*]

les dettes individuelles qui sont radiées y compris celles dont on parle dans le budget supplémentaire. C'est au ministère concerné que revient la tâche de recouvrer les dettes radiées.

M. Hales: Êtes-vous disposé de venir devant ce Comité, dans un an, et nous dire combien vous avez recouvré?

M. Brittain: Je crois que c'est impossible de donner des chiffres.

M. Hales: Vous voulez nous dire que vous ne tenez pas de dossier sur les sommes qui sont remboursées?

M. Brittain: Les ministères concernés tiennent des dossiers là-dessus.

M. Hales: Pourquoi ne vous serait-il pas possible de revenir dans un an et nous dire: «Eh bien, messieurs, voici: vous avez radié 7 millions et quart l'an dernier, et depuis lors nous en avons recouvré, tant et tant de milliers de dollars».

M. Brittain: Monsieur le président, les sommes qui sont inscrites comme étant non-recouvrables le sont déjà depuis plusieurs années. Je ne peux vous dire exactement ce qui a été recouvré d'année en année. C'est-à-dire qu'on a recouvré, depuis, les montants qui étaient non-recouvrables. Comme je vous l'ai dit, c'est la responsabilité du ministère et non celle du Conseil du Trésor.

M. Hales: La question que je pose est: est-ce que les divers ministères pourraient alors venir vous voir d'ici un an et vous dire: Voilà nous avons pu recouvrer x montant de dollars qui avaient été radiés?

M. Brittain: Oui, si on prenait des dispositions spéciales, on pourrait le faire.

M. Hales: Eh bien, c'est une curieuse de façon de tenir les comptes du Canada. Je ne savais pas que l'on pouvait tenir les comptes de cette façon.

Ordinairement, toute entreprise qui tient des comptes, qu'elle croit ne pas être recouvrables, maintient quand même un relevé et déduit au fur et à mesure les montants qu'elle reçoit, de sorte qu'à la fin de chaque année ils peuvent savoir combien ils ont récupéré, nous pouvons sûrement en faire autant pour les affaires du Canada.

M. Brittain: Je ne suis pas en mesure de parler pour une vingtaine de ministères du governement. Je ne sais pas comment sont gérés leurs comptes.

M. Hales: Alors, où allons-nous obtenir ces renseignements? Pour moi, je les crois importants. Je suggère que le Comité essaie de trouver ces renseignements. Et, je m'adresse à monsieur Brittain.

[*Text*]

Mr. Parr: I would think the Public Accounts Committee would be the best place to request this information, that it be disclosed in the Public Accounts of Canada. I would think that normally this revenue would be all-inclusive in the refund of previous years' expenditures, if they get it back, without the specific analysis that you are asking for, but if Public Accounts want it disclosed in the public accounts, then they should make this request.

Mr. Hales: Should we take it up with the Auditor General?

Mr. Parr: It would be the Chairman of the Public Accounts Committee, I think.

Mr. Hales: That is myself.

Mr. Parr: Then you take it up with your Committee.

Mr. Hales: You can rest assured it will be done. I will write a letter to myself.

Mr. Gillespie: Mr. Chairman, I am not sure that Mr. Clermont got an answer to his question with respect to a list. Is there a list published each year of those accounts which are in default and which are "to be written off"?

• 1630

Mr. Brittain: The answer, Mr. Chairman, is yes. I was just going to reach for the particular section of the public accounts in which they are reported.

The Chairman: They have to be reported.

Mr. Brittain: By law they are reported in public accounts.

Mr. Gillespie: Is each account listed and the amount shown?

Mr. Brittain: No, each account is not listed and the amount is not shown. I gave some actual figures for a six month period and these cases with their backgrounds would fill a fairly substantial volume, so that the amounts would be categorized by departments under the headings "Accounts not in excess of $1,000", which are written off under Governor in Council authority, and "Accounts not in excess of $1,000", which are written off under ministerial authority. The number of accounts is shown and the total amount is shown.

Mr. Gillespie: Has consideration been given, particularly in view of the amendment to Clause 7, to publishing the names of those accounts and the

[*Interpretation*]

M. Parr: Je crois que le Comité des comptes publics serait le meilleur endroit pour demander ce genre de renseignements parce que cela sera publié dans les Comptes publics du Canada. Je crois que normalement, ce revenu comprendrait tout. Il comprendrait les remboursements des dépenses des années précédentes qu'ils ont réussi à se faire rembourser sans qu'il y ait une analyse détaillée et aussi poussée que celle que vous voudriez avoir. Mais si les comptes publics décident qu'ils veulent que les renseignements demandés soient publiés dans les comptes publics, c'est à eux de le demander.

M. Hales: Est-ce qu'on devrait en parler à l'auditeur général?

M. Parr: Le président du comité des Comptes publics devrait alors s'occuper de cette question.

M. Hales: C'est moi, donc.

M. Parr: Alors, vous en parlerez à votre comité.

M. Hales: Soyez assuré que ce sera fait. Je vais écrire une lettre à ce sujet-là.

M. Gillespie: Je ne sais pas si M. Clermont a reçu une réponse satisfaisante à sa question concernant la liste. Il voudrait savoir s'il y a une liste qui est publiée chaque année quant au nombre de comptes qui n'ont pas été recouvrés au cours de l'année et qu'il faudra annuler.

M. Brittain: Oui, il y a une telle liste. J'essaie de trouver la section des comptes publics où on la donne justement.

Le président: On doit les inscrire.

M. Brittain: La loi exige que cela soit inscrit dans les comptes publics.

M. Gillespie: Est-ce que chaque compte est inscrit avec le montant?

M. Brittain: Non, pas chacun des comptes individuellement. J'ai donné les chiffres pour une période de six mois. Ces cas avec les circonstances particulières de chacun rempliraient un volume considérable, de sorte que les montants seraient inscrits par ministère, sous la rubrique de «Comptes de $1,000 ou moins» dont les sommes sont annulées en vertu de l'autorité du Gouverneur en conseil, et les «Comptes de moins de $1,000» qui sont annulés par l'autorité du ministre. On indique le nombre de comptes et la somme totale.

M. Gillespie: Est-ce que l'on a pensé, surtout en tenant compte de l'amendement à l'article 7, à publier le nom des titulaires de ces comptes et les montants en

[*Texte*]

amounts for each which are delinquent by $5,000 or more, and we must remember that the list might be of the order of about 400 names.

Mr. Brittain: I am not aware, Mr. Chairman, that consideration has been given to this.

Mr. Gillespie: Is this something that might be considered?

Mr. Brittain: I am afraid the question is a policy question, sir, which I cannot answer.

Mr. Gillespie: May I just put it on the record, Mr. Chairman, that I think it is something to which perhaps the Treasury Board might give consideration. I share some of the same concerns Mr. Hales has mentioned, both on this point and on the other point, with respect to recovery. I personnally feel that this is something to which the Treasury Board might give consideration, quite apart from the functions of the Auditor General in this area. I think it would be very reassuring if we were told that X number of dollars were recovered from accounts that had previously been deleted.

The Chairman: Mr. Crossman?

Mr. Crossman: Yes, Mr. Chairman and Mr. Brittain. You brought to mind, as an example, a person dying without leaving an estate or an account. That would automatically be a closed door, would it not? What happens at the present time if the amount is over $1,000, which the Governor in Council on the recommendation of the Treasury Board can delete. How is this handled? Suppose it was $25,000 and a person is dead without leaving an estate.

Mr. Brittain: It is printed in the estimates, sir.

The Chairman: Mr. Hales?

Mr. Hales: Mr. Brittain said that even though these accounts are deleted, the greatest effort is made to continue to try and collect them. Is that right?

Mr. Brittain: No, sir.

Mr. Hales: Well, I understood that is what the gist of it was. Now you correct me.

Mr. Brittain: I said that an account which has been deleted is not an account which has been forgiven. Efforts continue to be made–I do not remember exactly the words I used–to recover, if an individual or a firm becomes solvent.

Mr. Hales: That is pretty close to what I said. You do attempt to collect them even though they are deleted. Now, you said that the various departments

[*Interprétation*]

cause, pour chacun des comptes qui sont en souffrance de $5,000 ou plus,–Il ne faut pas oublier que la liste pourrait porter 400 noms.

M. Brittain: Je ne sais pas si on ait envisagé de faire ça, monsieur le président.

M. Gillespie: Est-ce que cela pourrait être envisagé?

M. Brittain: Je ne peux pas répondre à cette question, monsieur, c'est une question de politique.

M. Gillespie: Puis-je faire inscrire au dossier, monsieur le président, que c'est là quelque chose que le conseil du Trésor devrait étudier. Je partage certains des soucis que M. Hales a mentionnés, sur cette question et sur l'autre concernant le recouvrement. Je crois, moi, que c'est quelque chose que le conseil du Trésor devrait étudier, quelque chose en dehors des fonctions de l'auditeur général. Ça serait très rassurant si on pouvait nous dire que tant de dollars ont été recouvrés de comptes qui avaient été rayés.

Le président: Monsieur Crossman?

M. Crossman: Monsieur le président, M. Brittain. Vous avez parlé de l'exemple d'une personne qui mourait sans laisser ni succession ni compte. Ce serait automatiquement une impasse, n'est-ce pas? Qu'est-ce qui arrive à l'heure actuelle si le montant est de plus de 1,000 dollars? Est-ce que le gouverneur en conseil sur les recommandations du conseil du Trésor, peut le rayer? Comment cela se passe-t-il? Supposons, par exemple, que ce soit 25,000 dollars et que la personne n'ait pas laissé de succession?

M. Brittain: C'est indiqué dans les prévisions budgétaires, monsieur.

Le président: M. Hales?

M. Hales: M. Brittain a dit que même si ces comptes sont rayés, on continue à essayer de les recouvrer. Est-ce exact?

M. Brittain: Non monsieur.

M. Hales: C'est ce que j'avais compris, mais je prends note.

M. Brittain: J'ai dit, qu'un compte rayé, n'est pas un compte oublié. On fait toujours des efforts, je ne sais pas quels sont les mots que j'ai utilisés exactement, mais on tente de le recouvrer, au cas où une entreprise ou un individu par exemple, deviendrait solvable.

M. Hales: Je crois que ça se rapproche beaucoup de ce que j'ai dit. Vous tentez de les recouvrer bien qu'ils aient été rayés. Vous avez dit que les différents minis-

[*Text*]

would have to answer for it. May I direct this to you as a member of the Comptroller of the Treasury staff?

Mr. Brittain: No, sir. The Treasury Board.

Mr. Hales: Treasury Board. Is there anybody here from the Comptroller's section?

Mr. Brittain: Mr. Parr.

Mr. Hales: Mr. Parr? This Committee deleted, as I said, $7,250,000 million from moneys owed to the Crown, and the comptroller of the Treasury Department, we wrote off $16,405,000.33. Could the comptroller's Department come back to this Committee a year from now and say of that $16 million odd, that we have been successful in collecting X number of dollars? Do you keep your books in that Department in such a way that you could answer that a year from now?

Mr. W. L. Parr (Director, Authorities Advisory Service, Treasury Board): Yes, I would say that I think we could, and if that information was requested we can give it.

• 1635

Mr. Hales: I am asking for last year, not this coming year. Could you provide information to this Committee about the amount of money that you were successful in collecting from the write-offs of last year?

Mr. Parr: Let me give a qualified yes. I think we could.

Mr. Hales: Well then, Mr. Chairman, I would ask that the Comptroller's Department provide this Committee with the amount of moneys that they have recovered from the total that was deleted the last time a deletion was entered.

The Chairman: I do not believe, Mr. Hales, that your request is relevant to the bill. It is relevant, but I do not believe that that question should have been asked when we were carrying out the Estimates.

Mr. Hales: You are entirely right, Mr. Chairman.

The Chairman: At that time I think that should have been . . .

Mr. Hales: You are entirely right, and I will abide by your ruling. We will follow this from another source, like the Public Accounts Committee. But it is too bad that we did not think of it when we did this in this Committee, so I will follow it from another source. I am sorry to take the time of the Committee.

The Chairman: Mr. Alkenbrack?

[*Interpretation*]

tères devraient en répondre. Je voudrais vous demander, en tant que membre du personnel du contrôleur du trésor . . .

M. Brittain: Du Conseil du trésor.

M. Hales: Conseil du trésor. N'y a-t-il personne de la section du Contrôleur?

M. Brittain: Monsieur Parr?

M. Hales: M. Parr? Ce comité a rayé 7¼ millions de dollars, dus à la Couronne, et 16,405,000.33 dus au service du contrôleur du Trésor. Est-ce que le service du contrôleur peut revenir l'an prochain devant le comité et dire: Sur les 16 millions et quelques, nous avons réussi à recouvrer tant de dollars. Est-ce que vous tenez vos dossiers dans le ministère d'une façon qui vous permette de nous répondre à ce sujet dans un an?

M. Parr (Directeur, Service-conseil, conseil du trésor): Je crois que nous le pourrions, oui. Si ces renseignements nous étaient demandés, nous pourrions les fournir.

M. Hales: Prenons l'année passée, est-ce que vous pourriez nous donner les sommes que vous avez réussi à recouvrer sur les sommes qui avaient été rayées l'an passé?

M. Parr: Disons que je vous donne un oui provisoire, je crois que nous pourrions.

M. Hales: Bien, monsieur le président, je voudrais donc demander au service du contrôleur de fournir au comité les sommes qui ont été recouvrées sur les sommes qui avaient été rayées au moment de la dernière radiation.

Le président: Je ne crois pas, M. Hales, que cela se rapporte directement au Bill. Elle s'y rapporte, mais je ne crois pas que cette question aurait dû être posée maintenant.

M. Hales: Vous avez raison, monsieur le président.

Le président: Maintenant, je crois que cela aurait dû être . . .

M. Hales: Vous avez parfaitement raison, je m'incline devant votre décision. Je vais faire suivre cela au comité des comptes publics. Mais c'est malheureux que nous n'ayons pas pu penser à cela lorsque nous avons étudié le problème au comité. Je vais tenter d'obtenir les renseignements d'une autre source. Je m'excuse de gaspiller le temps de ce Comité.

Le président: M. Alkenbrack?

[*Texte*]

Mr. Alkenbrack: I just want to say, Mr. Chairman, that I was one of those at the second last meeting who spoke out against this change, and I am rather surprised that Mr. Brittain would say that they are doing this to make the accounts of Canada more realistic. I think it is making the accounts of Canada less realistic. The $1,000 ceiling that you did have—you have been using that ceiling for years—is more realistic than a $5,000 ceiling. It is only inviting more delinquency in people owing accounts to the government.

Moreover, Mr. Chairman, the method we are using here is most inadequate in dealing with such an important subject as the very basis of the economy of the country. This committee system is most inadequate. It just makes a sort of forum for comment from us. In fact, does the record show that we passed Clause 7 the other day?

The Chairman: It does, Mr. Alkenbrack. I mentioned it when we started this afternoon's meeting that Clauses 2 to 12 inclusive were already agreed to. We reserved Clause 1 in order to have a general discussion of the bill. That is what we are doing now, and I think that you have made your point very well.

Mr. Alkenbrack: Just in closing, I want to say that we have had discussion on it, but we are helpless. We cannot move any amendment. It will probably go through and be reported to the House that this Committee was in favour of this drastic and unwise change. This should not be reported as passed by this Committee, but the matter should be referred back to Parliament.

Mr. Clermont: On a point of order.

The Chairman: Mr. Clermont?

Mr. Clermont: On a point of order, when our colleague claims that Clause 7 was agreed to, that means it was agreed to and there was no mention of division. So it was agreed to.

Mr. Alkenbrack: There is evidence here this afternoon of division, Mr. Chairman. I think that this matter should be referred to Parliament, because I am sure there is a majority of the members of the House would be against . . .

The Chairman: Mr. Alkenbrack, you can take that up on the third reading of the bill.

Mr. Douglas: I think I had my name down there. Actually, the question I was going to ask was very similar to the one Mr. Gillespie already asked.

But I would like to make this comment that I do not like the idea of people with debts of up to $5,000 having them deleted and no publicity given to these people. It does seem to me that a list of names,

[*Interprétation*]

M. Alkenbrack: Je voulais dire, monsieur le président, que je suis l'un de ceux qui ont protesté contre cela, lors de l'avant-dernière séance. Je suis plutôt surpris que M. Brittain dise qu'ils font cela pour rendre les comptes du Canada plus réalistes. Je crois que ça rend les comptes du Canada moins réalistes. Vous avez eu pendant des années un plafond d'un millier de dollars c'est plus réaliste d'après moi que le plafond de 5,000 dollars. C'est tout simplement inviter les gens à la fraude.

De plus, monsieur le président, la méthode que nous utilisons ici n'est pas satisfaisante pour traiter d'une question qui met en cause l'économie du pays. Le système du comité est vraiment peu satisfaisant. C'est simplement un club qui permet aux gens de faire des commentaires. Est-ce que les dossiers indiquent que nous avons adopté l'article 7 l'autre jour?

Le président: Oui, monsieur Alkenbrack. J'ai mentionné, quand nous avons débuté la séance de cet après-midi, que les articles 2 à 12 inclusivement avaient été adoptés. Nous avons réservé l'article 1 pour avoir une discussion générale du Bill. C'est ce que nous faisons et je crois que vous avez fait bien connaître votre point de vue.

M. Alkenbrack: Mais en terminant, je voudrais dire que nous avons discuté de ce sujet, mais que toutefois nous sommes inutiles. Nous ne pouvons plus demander d'amendements. Nous allons donc renvoyer ce Bill à la Chambre en disant que nous sommes en faveur de cette modification draconienne et peu sage. Nous devrions faire savoir que le comité n'est pas d'accord, et la question devrait être renvoyée au Parlement.

M. Clermont: J'invoque un règlement.

Le président: M. Clermont?

M. Clermont: Quand notre collègue prétend que l'article 7 a été adopté. Eh bien, l'article 7 a été adopté et il n'y a pas eu de mention de majorité à ce moment-là. Il a été adopté un point c'est tout.

M. Alkenbrack: Il y a des preuves de désaccord cet après-midi. Je crois que cette question devrait être renvoyée au Parlement, car je suis sûr qu'il y a une majorité des députés de la Chambre, qui seraient contre. . .

Le président: M. Alkenbrack vous pourrez faire cela à la troisième lecture du Bill.

M. Douglas: Je crois que je figurais sur la liste. M. Gillespie a posé la question que je voulais poser, mais j'aimerais faire le remarque suivante.

Je n'aime pas beaucoup l'idée que les gens qui ont des dettes jusqu'à 5,000 dollars, voient ces dettes abandonnées sans publicité. Il ne me semble pas que la liste des gens qui doivent entre 1,000 et 5,000 dol-

[*Text*]

certainly between 1,000 and 5,000, might not be such a long list. It could be made public. I think that is the least we can do to punish people who in my estimation defraud the government, the people of Canada.

• 1640

Mr. Peddle: I just take mild exception to the statement that any money owed to the government is necessarily by fraud. And I would just like to very briefly outline a matter that I am dealing with right now. It concerns a lady who worked with the Post Office in the Labrador part of my riding. She had been overpaid a certain amount over a period of four years, and it accumulated to something like $900. After she resigned because she lost the sight of one eye, she is stuck with this bill of $900 which, in my opinion, was not her fault. It was an overpayment of an isolation allowance. I wrote the Treasury Board and they said it was a matter for the Postmaster General. I referred the matter to him and he said that after all the usual means of collection had been exhausted they would consider write-off.

In relation to this particular case, I am a little alarmed at Mr. Brittain's remark that collection procedures, according to him, are a continuing process throughout the lifetime of the person.

In your opinion, would this, or would this not, actually be a write-off eventually, because the woman at the present time has no means of paying?

Mr. Brittain: This was a deletion.

Mr. Peddle: Not yet.

Mr. Brittain: It would be a deletion. The collection action would come about if the woman inherited a large sum of money from an unknown uncle, or something like that.

Mr. Peddle: Then she would not mind paying. She told me that.

The Chairman: Mr. Clermont?

M. Clermont: Monsieur le président, ce n'est qu'une suggestion qui, sans doute a déjà été faite au Conseil du Trésor. La lecture du Livre bleu, ne serait-elle pas plus facile pour nous les députés, si, au lieu de présenter une somme globale de sept millions et quart de dollars vous établissiez une différence entre des dettes d'un an, deux ans, trois ans, quatre ans, cinq ans. Cela nous permettrait de savoir si dans ces sept millions et quart de dollars, il y a des comptes recevables pour cinq ans ou dix ans, etc. Si vous établissez une rubrique intitulée comptes payables pour un an, pour deux ans, trois ans, quatre ans,

[*Interpretation*]

lars soit si longue qu'on ne puisse la publier. Je crois que c'est le moins qu'on puisse faire pour punir ces gens qui sont en dette envers la Couronne, envers le peuple canadien.

M. Peddle: Je voudrais dire que toute somme qui serait due au gouvernement, est due par fraude. Je voudrais dire que moi j'ai traité de ces questions depuis longtemps et je connais une personne, par exemple, qui travaille au ministère des Postes, dans la partie du Labrador, de ma circonscription. Elle a été payée en trop pendant une certaine période de temps. Elle a accumulé ainsi quelque chose comme 900 dollars. Puis elle a quitté son emploi, parce qu'elle avait perdu la vision d'un oeil et elle avait cette dette de 900 dollars. Ce n'était pas vraiment sa faute. Elle a accepté un paiement en trop d'une prime d'isolement. Alors, j'ai écrit au Conseil du Trésor, où l'on m'a dit que cela relevait du ministère des Postes. Alors, j'ai parlé au ministre des Postes et il a dit qu'après avoir épuisé toutes les méthodes ordinaires de recouvrement, ils recouraient à l'annulation.

Je parle de ce cas particulier seulement parce que je me suis alarmé des remarques de M. Brittain, lorsqu'il dit que les procédures de recouvrement constituent un processus continu qui dure toute la vie de la personne intéressée.

Dans votre opinion, est-ce que ce cas fera éventuellement l'objet d'une annulation, car la femme n'est pas en mesure de payer.

M. Brittain: Il s'agissait d'une suppression.

M. Peddle: Pas encore.

M. Brittain: Il s'agirait dans ce cas-là d'une suppression. La mesure de recouvrement interviendrait si la femme héritait de la fortune d'un oncle inconnu, ou quelque chose du genre.

M. Peddle: Elle n'hésiterait pas à payer alors. C'est ce qu'elle m'a dit.

Le président: Monsieur Clermont.

Mr. Clermont: Mr. Chairman, this is only a suggestion which has no doubt already been made to the Treasury Board. Would it not be easier for members reading the Blue Book if, instead of presenting an overall sum of $7¼ million, you established a difference between one year, two year, three year, four year, and five year debts? This would allow us to know if, included in these $7¼ million, there are accounts receivable for five years or ten years, and so on. If you establish a heading titled accounts payable for one year, two years, three years, four years or five years, we could then see, if it is an account that is in the

[*Texte*]

cinq ans, alors on pourra voir, si c'est un compte présent dans les livres pour cinq ans, dix ans, que les facilités de remboursement ou de paiement sont très minimes. Merci.

Clause 1 agreed to.

Preamble agreed to.

Title agreed to.

The Chairman: Shall I report the Bill to the House as amended?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Mr. Hales: Mr. Chairman, before Mr. Brittain goes I would be interested, and I am sure the Committee would be, in some of the physical aspects of the Treasury Board. Where is the Treasury Board located? Where are your offices? Are you all in one building? Where is the Comptroller of the Treasury staff located? Now that we are doing away with that, are they going to be transferred to another building? Could we hear about some of these physical changes, if it is in order? It is of interest to us.

Mr. Brittain: I will try to answer your question as completely as I can, Mr. Hales. The Treasury Board is located in the Confederation Building at the bottom of the hill. It is, in effect, a department unto itself; it is not a part of another department. Some years ago it was a part of the Department of Finance, but in 1966-67 a divorce took place between those two.

• 1645

We now have the Treasury Board with the President of the Treasury Board in the person of Mr. Drury.

The Comptroller of the Treasury is an officer of the Department of Finance, appointed by the Governor in Council and removable by the Governor in Council. He and his office, by which I mean his section of the Department, are spread around. He is in a downtown building, and the computer operation which puts out cheques, and so on, is out in Tunney's Pasture. And I believe they may be in one or two other locations.

Referring to the third part of your question, the disposition of the staff of the Comptroller is consequent upon the abolition of that office. The Department of Supply and Services will be built around the Office of the Comptroller. The cheque issue function, which is a very, very large operation, as you can imagine, and which issues I believe in the order of 90 million cheques a year, continues in Tunney's Pasture under the Receiver General, or the Deputy Receiver General, as the person of the Comptroller will be called, if the new legislation, the organization bill, is passed. The people required for this function will, of course, remain *in situ* under a department with a different name.

[*Interprétation*]

books for five or ten years, that the facilities for reimbursement or payment are very small. Thank you.

L'article 1 est adopté.

Le préambule est adopté.

Le titre est adopté.

Le président: Dois-je faire rapport de ce Bill à la Chambre tel que modifié?

Des voix: D'accord.

M. Hales: Avant le départ de M. Brittain, j'aimerais connaître, ainsi que le Comité, je suis certain, certains aspects matériels du Conseil du Trésor. Où se trouve le Conseil du Trésor? Dans quel édifice? Où se trouve le bureau du Contrôleur du Trésor? Vont-ils être transférés à d'autres locaux? Autant de questions qui nous intéressent.

M. Brittain: Je vais essayer de répondre à votre question le mieux possible. Le Conseil du Trésor se trouve à l'édifice de la Confédération près de la Colline. Le Conseil du Trésor est en fait un service autonome qui n'est pas intégré à un ministère. Il y a quelques années, il était intégré au ministère des Finances et en 1966-1967, une dissociation s'est opérée entre les deux services.

Nous avons maintenant le Conseil du Trésor avec son président, monsieur Durry.

Le Contrôleur du Trésor est un fonctionnaire du ministère des Finances, nommé par le Gouverneur en Conseil et sujet à destitution par Ordre du Gouverneur en Conseil. Son service administratif est réparti. Il occupe lui-même un édifice du centre ville. Le service des ordinateurs qui émet les chèques, et ainsi de suite, est à Tunney's Pasture. Et il y a peut-être deux ou trois autres locaux aussi.

Quant à votre troisième question. La répartition du personnel du Contrôleur du Trésor est une des conséquences de l'abolition de ce poste. Le ministère des Services et Approvisionnements sera édifié autour de l'ancien bureau du Contrôleur. L'émission des chèques qui est un service très vaste émet environ 90 millions de chèques par année. Ce service restera à Tunney's Pasture, sous la surveillance du Receveur général, ou de son adjoint, en vertu de la nouvelle loi. Le personnel nécessaire pour remplir ces postes restera en place sous l'égide du nouveau ministère.

[*Text*]

I believe Mr. Drury explained when he was before the Committee, or, if not he, the proposed Minister of Supply and services did, that the Department of Supply and Services would be gathering unto itself various elements of service activity such as the Bureau of Management Consulting Services, the Central Data Processing Branch and agencies and activities of that kind.

He also mentioned, or if he did not mention he implied–I am not sure which–that certain members of the staff of the Comptroller's office who are involved in pre-audit would become redundant as that function was transferred to departments; and that some will transfer to departments to carry on that or similar functions. He mentioned that the process of attribution would take care of others.

I believe I have answered the questions you have asked, but I would be happy to attempt to answer any others.

Mr. Hales: Thank you.

The Chairman: Thank you, gentlemen. The meeting is adjourned.

[*Interpretation*]

Comme l'a expliqué monsieur Drury, ou le futur ministre des Services et Approvisionnements, lorsqu'il a comparu devant le Comité, que le ministère des Services et Approvisionnements absorbera divers éléments comme le Bureau des services consultatifs en matière de gestion et le Bureau central de traitement des données, et autres organismes et services de ce genre.

Il a aussi laissé entendre que certains membres du personnel du Contrôleur du Trésor, qui travaillent à la pré-vérification est un personnel vraiment superflu puisque ces fonctions ont été transférées en partie aux ministères: certains seront transférés à d'autres ministères pour remplir des fonctions semblables. Il a dit que le processus d'usure éliminera les autres employés.

Je crois avoir répondu à toutes les questions posées, mais je serais heureux de fournir d'autres réponses si vous avez d'autres questions.

M. Hales: Merci

Le président: Merci, messieurs. La séance est levée.

[*Text*]

I believe Mr. Drury explained when he was before the Committee, or, if not he, the proposed Minister of Supply and Services did, that the Department of Supply and Services would be gathering unto itself various elements of service activity such as the Bureau of Management Consulting Services, the Central Data Processing Branch and agencies and activities of that kind.

He also mentioned, or if he did not mention he implied—I am not sure which—that certain members of the staff of the Comptroller's office who are involved in pre-audit would become redundant as that function was transferred to departments, and that some will transfer to departments to carry on that or similar functions. He mentioned that the process of attribution would take care of others.

I believe I have answered the questions you have asked, but I would be happy to attempt to answer any others.

Mr. Hales: Thank you.

The Chairman: Thank you, gentlemen. The meeting is adjourned.

[*Interprétation*]

Comme l'a expliqué monsieur Drury, ou le futur ministre des Services et Approvisionnements, lorsqu'il a comparu devant le Comité, que le ministère des Services et Approvisionnements absorbera divers éléments comme le Bureau des services consultatifs en matière de gestion et le Bureau central de traitement des données, et autres organismes et services de ce genre.

Il a aussi laissé entendre que certains membres du personnel du Contrôleur du Trésor, qui travaillent à la pré-vérification est un personnel vraiment superflu puisque ces fonctions ont été transférées en partie aux ministères. Certains seront transférés à d'autres ministères pour remplir des fonctions semblables. Il a dit que le processus d'usure éliminera les autres employés.

Je crois avoir répondu à toutes les questions posées, mais je serais heureux de fournir d'autres réponses si vous avez d'autres questions.

M. Hales: Merci.

Le président: Merci, messieurs. La séance est levée.

OFFICIAL BILINGUAL ISSUE

HOUSE OF COMMONS

First Session
Twenty-eighth Parliament, 1968-69

FASCICULE BILINGUE OFFICIEL

CHAMBRE DES COMMUNES

Première session de la
vingt-huitième législature, 1968-1969

STANDING COMMITTEE
ON

MISCELLANEOUS ESTIMATES

COMITÉ PERMANENT
DES

PRÉVISIONS BUDGÉTAIRES EN GÉNÉRAL

Chairman M. Fernand E. Leblanc Président

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS
AND EVIDENCE

PROCÈS-VERBAUX ET
TÉMOIGNAGES

No. 13

TUESDAY, APRIL 1, 1969

LE MARDI 1er AVRIL 1969

Respecting

The items listed in the Main Estimates 1969-70, relating to the House of Commons, the Library of Parliament, the Auditor General and the National Capital Commission.

Concernant

Les postes énumérés au budget principal de 1969-1970, concernant la Chambre des communes, la Bibliothèque du Parlement, l'Auditeur général et la Commission de la Capitale nationale.

WITNESSES—TÉMOINS

(See Minutes of Proceedings) (Voir Procès-verbaux)

The Queen's Printer, Ottawa, 1969
L'Imprimeur de la Reine, Ottawa, 1969

OFFICIAL BILINGUAL ISSUE

HOUSE OF COMMONS

First Session

Twenty-eighth Parliament, 1968-69

FASCICULE BILINGUE OFFICIEL

CHAMBRE DES COMMUNES

Première session de la

vingt-huitième législature, 1968-1969

STANDING COMMITTEE

ON

MISCELLANEOUS ESTIMATES

COMITÉ PERMANENT

DES

PRÉVISIONS BUDGÉTAIRES EN GÉNÉRAL

Chairman M. Fernand E. Leblanc *Président*

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS AND EVIDENCE

PROCÈS-VERBAUX ET TÉMOIGNAGES

No. 13

TUESDAY, APRIL 1, 1969

LE MARDI 1er AVRIL 1969

Respecting

The items listed in the Main Estimates 1969-70, relating to the House of Commons, the Library of Parliament, the Auditor General and the National Capital Commission.

Concernant

Les postes énumérés au budget principal de 1969-1970, concernant la Chambre des communes, la Bibliothèque du Parlement, l'Auditeur général et la Commission de la Capitale nationale.

WITNESSES—TÉMOINS

(See Minutes of Proceedings) *(Voir Procès-verbaux)*

The Queen's Printer, Ottawa, 1969
L'Imprimeur de la Reine, Ottawa, 1969

29988—1

STANDING COMMITTEE
ON
MISCELLANEOUS ESTIMATES

COMITÉ PERMANENT
DES
PRÉVISIONS BUDGÉTAIRES
EN GÉNÉRAL

Chairman: M. Fernand-E. Leblanc — *Président.*
Vice-Chairman: [21] M. Aurélien Noël — *Vice-président.*

and Messrs.
Alkenbrack,
Clermont,
Crossman,
[22] Dumont,
Goode,
[17] Guay (*Lévis*),
Hales,
Lambert (*Edmonton West*),
[16] LeBlanc (*Rimouski*),
[24] Mather,
McCutcheon,
[23] Penner,
Paproski,
Peddle,
[19] Robinson,
[20] Rochon,
[18] Roy (*Timmins*),
Thomson (*Battleford-Kindersley*)—20.

et MM.

Le secrétaire du Comité,
D. E. Levesque
Clerk of the Committee.

Pursuant to S.O. 65(4)(*b*)

[16] Replaced Mr. Marchand (*Kamloops*) on March 20, 1969
[17] Replaced Mr. McBride on March 20, 1969
[18] Replaced Mr. Breau on March 20, 1969
[19] Replaced Mr. Douglas (*Assiniboia*) on March 20, 1969
[20] Replaced Mr. Trudel on March 20, 1969
[21] Replaced Mr. Gillespie on March 20, 1969
[22] Replaced Mr. Rodrigue on March 27, 1969
[23] Replaced Mr. Guilbault on March 31, 1969
[24] Replaced Mr. Nystrom on April 1, 1969

Conformément à l'article 65(4)*b*) du Règlement

[16] Remplace M. Marchand (*Kamloops*) le 20 mars 1969.
[17] Remplace M. McBride le 20 mars 1969
[18] Remplace M. Breau le 20 mars 1969
[19] Remplace M. Douglas (*Assiniboia*) le 20 mars 1969
[20] Remplace M. Trudel le 20 mars 1969
[21] Remplace M. Gillespie le 20 mars 1969
[22] Remplace M. Rodrigue le 27 mars 1969
[23] Remplace M. Guilbault le 31 mars 1969
[24] Remplace M. Nystrom le 1er avril 1969

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

[*Text*]

TUESDAY, April 1, 1969.
(14)

The Standing Committee on Miscellaneous Estimates met at 9:40 a.m. The Chairman, Mr. Fernand Leblanc, presiding.

Members present: Messrs. Clermont, Lambert (*Edmonton West*), Leblanc (*Laurier*), McCutcheon, Noël, Paproski, Peddle, Robinson, Rochon, Thomson (*Battleford-Kindersley*)—(10).

Also present: Messrs. Perrault, Gundlock and Marchand (*Kamloops-Cariboo*).

Appearing: Mr. Alistair Fraser, Clerk of the House of Commons.

Witnesses: From the House of Commons: Mr. Alex Small, Third Clerk Assistant, Mr. C. M. De Salaberry, Director of Administration, Lt. Col. D. V. Currie, Sergeant-at-Arms, Mr. Raymond Robichaud, Chief, Interpreters Branch. *From the Library of Parliament:* Mr. Erik Spicer, Chief Librarian. *From the Auditor General Department:* Mr. George Long, Assistant Auditor General, Mr. L. Vincent, General Administration. *From the National Capital Commission:* Mr. E. W. Thrift, General Manager.

The Chairman introduced Mr. Fraser, Clerk of the House of Commons and other Officials and called item 10 of the Main Estimates 1969-70, relating to the House of Commons.

After discussion the following items were allowed to stand:

Item 10, Allowance in lieu of residence to the Speaker, the Deputy Speaker, the Deputy Chairman and the Assistant Deputy Chairman of Committees. $12,500.

Item 15, Grants $240,000.

Item 20, General Administration $10,003,700.

The Chairman thanked Mr. Fraser and his Officials and they retired.

PROCÈS-VERBAL

[*Traduction*]

Le MARDI 1er avril 1969
(14)

Le Comité permanent des prévisions budgétaires en général se réunit à 9 h. 40 ce matin, sous la présidence de M. Fernand Leblanc, président.

Présents: MM. Clermont, Lambert (*Edmonton-Ouest*), Leblanc (*Laurier*), McCutcheon, Noël, Paproski, Peddle, Robinson, Rochon, Thomson (*Battleford-Kindersley*)—(10).

De même que: MM. Perrault, Gundlock et Marchand (*Kamloops-Cariboo*).

A comparu: M. Alistair Fraser, greffier de la Chambre des communes.

Témoins: De la Chambre des communes: MM. Alex Small, troisième greffier adjoint, C. M. de Salaberry, directeur de l'administration, le Lt-Col D. V. Currie, sergent d'armes, et Raymond Robichaud, chef du Service d'interprétation simultanée. *De la bibliothèque du Parlement:* M. Erik Spicer, bibliothécaire parlementaire. *Du Bureau de l'auditeur général:* MM. George Long, auditeur général adjoint, L. Vincent, administration générale. *De la Commission de la capitale nationale:* M. E. W. Thrift, directeur général.

Le président présente M. Fraser, greffier de la Chambre des communes et d'autres fonctionnaires, et met à l'étude le poste n° 10 du budget des dépenses pour 1969-1970, relatif à la Chambre des communes.

Après discussion, les postes suivants ont été réservés:

Poste n° 10, Indemnité de logement à l'Orateur de la Chambre des communes, à l'Orateur suppléant, au vice-président et au vice-président adjoint des comités, $12,500.

Poste n° 15, Subventions, $240,000.

Poste n° 20, Administration générale, $10,003,700.

Le président remercie M. Fraser et ses fonctionnaires qui se retirent.

29988—1½

Mr. Erik Spicer, Parliamentary Librarian was called and explained the function of the Parliamentary Library.

After questioning item 25, General Administration $857,400 relating to the Library of Parliament was allowed to stand.

The Committee commended Mr. Spicer for the excellent administration of the Parliamentary Library.

Mr. George Long, Assistant Auditor General and Mr. L. Vincent, General Administration, Auditor General Department, were called and answered questions.

Item 50, Salaries and Expenses of Office $2,700,000 relating to the Auditor General was discussed and allowed to stand.

Mr. E. W. Thrift, General Manager, National Capital Commission was called and introduced.

The Chairman called item 20, Operation and Maintenance $10,700,000 relating to the National Capital Commission.

At 12:25 p.m., the examination of the witness continuing, the Committee adjourned to the call of the Chair.

Le bibliothécaire parlementaire, M. Erik Spicer, décrit ses fonctions.

Après une série de questions, le poste n° 25, Administration générale, $857,400, relatif à la bibliothèque du Parlement est réservé.

Le Comité fait l'éloge de M. Spicer et de son excellente administration de la bibliothèque du Parlement.

MM. George Long, auditeur général adjoint et L. Vincent, administration générale, du Bureau de l'auditeur général, répondent aux questions.

Le poste n° 50, Traitements et dépenses du Bureau, $2,700,000, relatif à l'auditeur général, est étudié et réservé.

M. E. W. Thrift, directeur général de la Commission de la capitale nationale est présenté au Comité.

Le président met à l'étude le poste n° 20, Fonctionnement et entretien, $10,700,000 relatif à la Commission de la capitale nationale.

A 12 h. 25, comme l'interrogatoire du témoin se prolonge, le Comité s'ajourne jusqu'à nouvelle convocation du président.

Le secrétaire du Comité,
D. E. Levesque,
Clerk of the Committee.

[*Texte*]

EVIDENCE

(*Recorded by Electronic Apparatus*)

Tuesday, April 1, 1969

• 0939

The Chairman: Gentlemen, good morning. You know that on February 20 the House referred to our Standing Committee on Miscellaneous Estimates some estimates from various departments. This morning we intend to deal with four departments. First, the House of Commons for Votes 10, 15 and 20: second, Library of Parliament, Vote 25; third, Auditor General, Vote 50: and fourth, National Capital Commission, Votes 20, 25, L135 and L140

• 0940

For the House of Commons we have the pleasure of having as witnesses Mr. Alistair Fraser on my right, Clerk of the House of Commons; Mr. C. de Salaberry, Director of Administration: and Mr. A. Small, Third Clerk Assistant and Director of Legislative Services. We also have the pleasure of having Col. D. V. Currie, Sergeant-at-Arms and Director of Building Services.

House of Commons

10 Allowances in lieu of residence to the Speaker of the House of Commons, and in lieu of Apartments to the Deputy Speaker of the House of Commons; allowances to the Deputy Chairman and to the Assistant Deputy Chairman of Committees $12,500

Gentlemen, have you any questions regarding Vote 10 on page 286 of the Estimates?

M. Clermont: J'invoque le Règlement, monsieur le président. Vous êtes très optimiste ce matin quand vous dites que nous avons à l'étude 4 crédits et que vous espérez qu'ils seront adoptés. Vous êtes très optimiste pour un mardi

Le président: Quand on n'est pas très optimiste, monsieur Clermont, on est pessimiste! Alors, je préfère être optimiste au cas où mes souhaits se matérialiseraient.

M. Clermont: Le représentant de la Chambre des communes a-t-il des commentaires à faire au Comité, monsieur le président?

The Chairman: We will now have an opening statement by Mr. Fraser.

[*Interprétation*]

TÉMOIGNAGES

(*Enregistrement électronique*)

Le mardi 1er avril 1969

Le président: Vous savez que le 20 février la Chambre a soumis à notre Comité permanent des prévisions budgétaires certaines prévisions en provenance de divers ministères. Ce matin, nous allons décider des prévisions pour quatre ministères: premièrement, la Chambre des communes, crédits 10, 15 et 20. En second lieu, la Bibliothèque du Parlement: crédit 25. Ensuite, l'Auditeur général: crédit 60. Et, quatrièmement, la Commission de la capitale nationale: crédits 20, 25 et L135 et L140.

Pour la Chambre des communes, nous avons le plaisir d'avoir à titre de témoin, M. Alistair Fraser à ma droite, greffier de la Chambre des communes; M. C. de Salaberry, directeur de l'administration; M. Alex Small, directeur des services législatifs et troisième greffier adjoint. Et nous avons le colonel D. V. Currie, à l'arrière, le sergent-d'armes, et directeur des services.

10 Indemnité de logement à l'Orateur de la Chambre des communes et (appartement) à l'Orateur suppléant de la Chambre des communes; indemnités au vice-président et au vice-président adjoint des comités—$12,500

Messieurs, si vous avez des questions à poser au sujet du crédit 10, à la page 286.

Mr. Clermont: Mr. Chairman, on a point of order. You are very optimistic this morning when you mention that we have four votes for consideration and that you hope they will be passed. You are very optimistic, indeed.

The Chairman: When one is not an optimist, Mr. Clermont, one is a pessimist. I would just as soon be an optimist in the event that my hopes would be fruitful.

Mr. Clermont: Does the representative of the House of Commons have any comments to make to the Commitee, Mr. Chairman?

Le président: Nous aurons une présentation de la part de M. Fraser.

[*Text*]

Mr. Alistair Fraser (Clerk of the House of Commons): Mr. Chairman and gentlemen, I thought it might be of interest to you if I were to generally go over the organization of the House of Commons. I know you are familiar with it, but this is the first time we have ever appeared before a committee and really I think the first time that any serious consideration has been given to the estimates of the Speaker of the House.

Briefly and basically speaking, the whole organization is under the Speaker, who in a way acts as the minister of the department. He is assisted by the chief permanent officer of the House, the Clerk, who in turn divides his jurisdiction into three, directors and directorates.

Lt. Col. Currie, the Sergeant-at-Arms and Director of Building Services, has two deputy Sergeants-at-Arms assisting him and he is responsible for the protective staff and the constabulary force of the House of Commons. He supervises the purchasing and Equipment branch; he is in charge of the Messenger Service, which assists members; he generally looks after the Page Staff in the Chamber; he is in charge of the maintenance and cleaning operations of our buildings; he is in charge of the Restaurant and Cafeteria services and a number of miscellaneous services as well.

Mr. Alex Small is the Director of Legislative Services and Third Clerk Assistant. Generally speaking he is in charge of the paper work in connection with the operations in the Chamber. He is also in charge of what is becoming a most important branch of our organization, the Committee and Private Legislation Branch. Under his jurisdiction is the Chief of that branch; the Chief of English Debates, which puts out our English Hansard; the Chief of French Debates, which puts out our French Hansard; the Chiefs of the English and French Journals; the Chiefs of our English and French Index and Reference branches; the Chief of our Joint Distribution Office, as far as the House of Commons is concerned and the Chiefs of the Committee Reporting Service (English) and the Committee Reporting Service (French).

The third director is the Director of Administration, Mr. deSalaberry. Under him come the financial officers of the House of Commons; the Chief of Personnel; the Chief of the Members' Offices Branch; the Chief of our Stationery, Printing and Office Machines Branch; the Chief of our Postal Branch and our Health Unit, as far as the House of Commons is concerned.

There is a fourth branch, the Inter-Parliamentary Relations Branch, under the direction of Mr. Imrie, which really reports more

[*Interpretation*]

M. Alistair Fraser (Greffier de la Chambre des communes): Monsieur le président, messieurs, j'ai pensé que cela vous intéresserait peut-être que je vous décrive l'organisation de la Chambre des communes. Je sais que vous connaissez bien ce sujet mais c'est la première fois que nous comparaissons devant un comité et c'est la première fois qu'on porte une attention sérieuse aux prévisions budgétaires de l'Orateur.

L'Orateur agit à titre de Ministre, chef d'un ministère. Il est assisté du Greffier, haut fonctionnaire permanent, dont la juridiction est divisée en trois directions dirigées par un directeur.

Le lieutenant colonel Currie, sergent-d'armes et directeur des services, a deux sergents-d'armes adjoints et il est responsable du service de protection de la Chambre des communes. Il est aussi le chef des achats et du matériel et dirige le service de messagers pour les députés, il s'occupe du service des pages à la Chambre des communes; il est responsable des services d'entretien et de nettoyage de nos édifices, et également des services de restaurants et cafétérias et autres.

M. Alex Small est le directeur des services législatifs et troisième greffier adjoint. De façon générale, il s'occupe de la documentation qui a trait aux travaux de la Chambre. Il s'occupe également de ce qui devient une division très importante, c'est-à-dire, la direction des comités et des bills privés. Dépendent de lui: le chef de cette division; le chef des débats anglais, qui produit le hansard anglais; le chef des débats français qui publient le hansard français; le chef des journaux parlementaires anglais et français; les chefs, anglais et français, de l'index et de l'information; le chef de notre bureau conjoint de distribution, et les chefs des services, anglais et français, des comptes rendus des comités.

Le troisième directeur, celui de l'administration, est M. de Salaberry. Dépendant de lui les agents des services financiers de la Chambre des communes; le chef de la Direction des bureaux des députés; le chef de la Direction de la papeterie et des fournitures; le maître de poste et l'unité sanitaire.

Il y a une quatrième direction, celle des relations interparlementaires, dont le chef est M. Imrie, qui dépend plus directement de

[*Texte*]

directly to the Speaker than it does to the Clerk of the House. Generally speaking that is the breakdown of the organizational operation of the House.

I want to say to you, if I may—and this is the first occasion I have had to say it—how impressed I have been during the time I have been Clerk with the staff and what they do for members. Their purpose in being here is to serve and assist members. They put in long hours and work under great pressure. I have received nothing but the greatest co-operation from my three colleagues and directors, and, indeed all the staff.

• 0945

I want to say a special word about Mr. deSalaberry, if I may. This is the first time he has appeared before this Committee and it will be the last, because he has put in his notice of retirement. I want to put on public record the loyalty, devotion and service that he has given to the House of Commons and to the staff of the House of Commons.

That is about all I have to say, in these opening remarks, gentlemen, other than to tell you that we all have problems. Our principal problem, which I am now discussing before a House of Commons committee and a government committee, is the acute shortage of staff under which members are suffering and labouring, and under which the staff of the House of Commons is suffering and labouring. I hope by the time I appear before this Committee—if I do appear before it—next year there will have been improvements, but for the moment this remains our most serious difficulty and setback.

The Chairman: Mr. Lambert.

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): Mr. Chairman, I want to concentrate more on this particular side of the staff shortages, the position of staff in the House of Commons and down into the committees.

For a number of years I have become increasingly vocal—and I intend to continue to be increasingly vocal—about the impact of blithely-taken decisions to sit an extra hour or two hours and to throw in extra committee sessions on days when they have not been scheduled in order to give the staff a chance to even out. They are also subject to the same entitlement as to hours of work per week, and although we do not keep them on an exact number of hours there has to be a spirit of goodwill and consideration for the staff, otherwise we are going to find ourselves faced with the impossible situation of people just simply saying, "Well, you can take the

[*Interprétation*]

l'Orateur que du Greffier de la Chambre. Voilà quel est l'organigramme de la Chambre des communes.

Je voudrais vous dire, et c'est la première fois que j'en ai l'occasion, combien j'ai été impressionné, lorsque j'étais greffier, par le travail que fait le personnel pour les députés. Le personnel est là pour aider les députés; il travaillle de longues heures dans des conditions difficiles; mes troiss collègues et les directeurs m'ont apporté une très grande collaboration.

Je voudrais dire un mot spécial au sujet de M. de Salaberry. C'est la première et la dernière fois que M. de Salaberry comparaît devant ce Comité parce qu'il a décidé de prendre sa retraite. Je veux faire consigner au procès-verbal combien il s'est consacré aux travaux de la Chambre.

C'est à peu près tout ce que j'ai à dire, messieurs, mais je voudrais vous dire que nous avons des problèmes. Le principal, que je discute à deux autres comités, un Comité du gouvernement et un autre de la Chambre des communes c'est la pénurie du personnel dont souffrent les députés ainsi que le personnel de la Chambre. J'espère que, quand je comparaîtrai devant ce Comité, avant l'année prochaine si possible, il y aura eu des améliorations appropriées. Pour le moment, la pénurie présente un obstacle aux travaux de la Chambre.

Le président: Monsieur Lambert.

M. Lambert (Edmonton-Ouest): Je veux porter mon attention sur la question de pénurie de personnel à la Chambre des communes et aux comités.

Depuis plusieurs années, je demande de plus en plus, et je continuerai à le faire, qu'on ne décide plus à la légère de siéger une heure ou deux de plus et de faire des réunions de comités supplémentaires et non prévues, afin de donner une chance au personnel de se rattraper. Le personnel, naturellement, a droit aux mêmes heures de travail par semaine. Il faut qu'il y ait un esprit de coopération et de considération. Autrement, la situation deviendra impossible parce que le personnel dira qu'il n'est plus intéressé à travailler pour nous.

[*Text*]

job and you know what you can do with it", regardless of the salary.

I would like an indication from you, Mr. Fraser, on just how short we are of staff in positions that have been filled. I am not speaking, shall we say, of anticipated sizes of staff, which sometimes takes into account the ambitions of people to have a bigger staff merely to have a bigger staff, but essential staff at the present time. I would also like you to consider this question of what an hour or an hour and a half of extra sitting means. In particular I want to formally object to this so-called adjournment of House business on Wednesday night. I have not said so to my colleague, the present Speaker, but this is not within the spirit of Standing Order 26. It is not an adjournment of government business, it is merely additional business of the House. I want to know precisely what impact that has on staff.

Mr. Fraser: As far as your first question is concerned, sir, the shortage or otherwise of staff,—if I may start at the top—I want to tell you and tell the members of the Committee that we are having very great difficulty by virtue of the fact that we only have three Table officers to do the work of the House. The positions of Clerk of the House and the two Clerks Assistant are filled by Order in Council. We have an authorized establishment of one Clerk, two Clerks Assistant, of which one position is filled by Mr. Dubroy, a Second Clerk Assistant and the Third Clerk Assistant. The positions of one Clerk Assistant and Second Clerk Assistant are vacant. I would say to you that we can certainly use those five and particularly, as you say, with the late evening sessions.

So, at the top, we are short and I very much hope that these appointments will be filled very quickly because we are labouring under quite a strain.

As far as the individual directorates are concerned, if you do not mind I will ask my colleagues to deal with that and then I will come back, if I may, to the question of the impact of later sittings on us.

Mr. de Salaberry, perhaps you could speak so far as your directorate is concerned.

• 0950

Mr. C. M. de Salaberry (Director of Administration): I think the staff is adequate for the present needs. We have bought equipment that has been delivered in the past two or three weeks which will speed up operations, such as multiliths, photo-copiers and inserting machines, that sort of equipment,

[*Interpretation*]

Je voudrais que vous nous indiquiez, monsieur Fraser, quelle est la pénurie de personnel? Je ne veux pas que vous nous donniez des détails au sujet d'importance anticipée de personnel, car il y a des gens, qui veulent plus de personnel simplement pour avoir plus de personnel, mais seulement au sujet du personnel essentiel à l'heure actuelle. Je voudrais que vous étudiez cette question: quelle est l'importance d'une heure ou deux de séance de plus? Je veux en particulier m'opposer à cet ajournement de la Chambre mercredi soir. Je ne l'ai pas dit à mon collègue l'Orateur actuel, mais cela n'entre pas dans l'esprit du règlement nº 26. Ce n'est pas un ajournement des affaires du gouvernement. C'est tout simplement un travail additionnel pour la Chambre. Et je voudrais savoir exactement comment cela affecte-t-il le personnel?

M. Fraser: En ce qui a trait à la première question, messieurs, la situation en matière de personnel (si vous me permettez de commencer par le début) est celle-ci. Je voudrais expliquer que nous avons énormément de difficultés parce que nous n'avons que 3 fonctionnaires à la table de la Chambre des communes pour faire le travail de la Chambre des communes. Le Greffier et les deux greffiers adjoints sont des postes comblés par décret du conseil. Nous avons 1 greffier, deux greffiers adjoints dont un est M. Dubroy. Et le troisième greffier adjoint.

Et, ces cinq personnes nous sont sûrement utiles car nous sommes à court de personnel, surtout aux dernières séances du soir. J'espère que ces nominations seront faites sous peu parce que nous sommes surchargés.

En ce qui a trait aux directions en particulier, je demanderai à mes collègues de traiter de ces questions-là. Puis je reviendrai à la question de l'effet des heures additionnelles de séance. M. de Salaberry pourrait peut-être parler de sa division.

M. C. M. de Salaberry (Directeur de l'administration): J'ai l'impression que le personnel est suffisant pour les besoins actuels. Nous avons acheté du matériel qui peut accélérer les opérations: machines à lithographier, à insertion, photocopieurs. Ce qui peut aider les députés qui ont du travail à faire, des

[*Texte*]

which should help the members who have material to get out to their ridings. I think this was needed more than extra staff.

In some ways the members' secretaries report to me administratively, and you gentlemen are more aware than I if the establishment for members' secretaries is sufficient or not. Quite a few of the members feel that they require extra help. Aside from that I feel the staff is sufficient to carry out the work in Administration.

Mr. A. Small (Director of Legislative Services and Third Clerk Assistant): Mr. Chairman, so far as the staff in Hansard is concerned, I think we are properly geared traditionally for the workload that goes on in the Chamber. Where we run into difficulty is in the committee sector. We are faced now with all bills and all estimates going to the various standing committees. We are converting from separate English and French editions of Committee *Hansards*, if you want to call them that, and this involves a complete doubling of work for our transcribing and editorial staffs.

From the experience we have had since January under the new rules, I would say that the work has at least tripled. We cannot find, hire and train competent people quite that quickly. We have anywhere from 20 to 30 vacant positions to fill through competition and selection. Where we run up against a dead end is, where do we put them? We have no space, and this is the nub of the problem. If we can get the space, we can get the staff eventually and by the end of this session—certainly by the beginning of the next one—we would hope to have the necessary staff recruited for the committee sector.

In other sectors I do not see too big a problem. The extra sittings of the House are not unusual. This has always been the case.

It is the shift of the sittings to the committee sector and the "peaking" on certain days that we find very hard to handle on a day-to-day basis, but we do try to average it out as much as possible on a week-to-week basis.

Le président: Monsieur Clermont?

M. Lambert (Edmonton-Ouest): Je n'ai pas fini.

Je n'ai pas reçu la réponse du Sergent d'armes, s'il y en a une, et ensuite, la réponse à ma deuxième question de M. Fraser. J'ai aussi des questions supplémentaires à poser à M. Small.

[*Interprétation*]

communications à envoyer à leurs circonscriptions. C'était plus nécessaire que d'augmenter le personnel.

D'une façon ou d'une autre, les secrétaires des députés dépendent de moi au point de vue administratif. Vous savez mieux que moi si vous avez suffisamment de personnel. Un grand nombre d'entre vous pensent qu'ils auraient besoin d'être aidés davantage. En dehors de ça, le personnel est suffisant pour le travail.

M. A. Small (Directeur des services législatifs et troisième greffier adjoint): En ce qui concerne le personnel du Hansard, j'ai l'impression que nous avons assez de monde pour le travail qui se fait à la Chambre. Là, où nous rencontrons des difficultés, c'est à la division des comités. Tous les projets de loi et tous les crédits vont aux divers comités permanents. Nous sommes passés des éditions française et anglaise distinctes des comptes rendus des comités à une édition unique, ce qui double le travail des transcripteurs et des éditeurs.

Depuis le mois de janvier, depuis l'application du nouveau Règlement, le travail a au moins triplé. Nous ne pouvons pas trouver, embaucher et former des gens compétents si rapidement que cela. Il y a vingt ou trente postes vacants à pourvoir par voie de concours et de choix. La difficulté principale c'est de trouver un endroit où les placer. Nous n'avons pas de locaux, et c'est l'essentiel du problème. Si nous pouvons trouver l'espace voulu, nous pourrons trouver le personnel, et d'ici la fin de la présente session et sûrement avant le début de la prochaine, nous pensons avoir le personnel voulu pour la division des comités.

Dans les autres divisions, je ne vois pas de problèmes. La Chambre a toujours eu des séances supplémentaires. Cela n'a rien de nouveau.

C'est la rotation des séances à la division des comités et le fait que nous ayons des périodes de pointe, certains jours, qui suscitent certaines difficultés. Nous avons du mal à venir à bout de ces difficultés au jour le jour, mais d'une semaine à l'autre, nous essayons d'y parvenir autant que possible.

The Chairman: Mr. Clermont?

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): I am not through yet. I have not yet received the answer from the Sergeant-at-Arms, if there is an answer, nor the answer to my second question from Mr. Fraser. I also have supplementary questions for Mr. Small.

[*Text*]

Mr. Fraser: Colonel Currie, can you give the Committee your...

The Chairman: Colonel Currie, will you please take a chair closer to a microphone?

Mr. Fraser: I will paraphrase Mr. Lambert's question, if I may attempt to put it for him. It is whether or not in your opinion we are adequately staffed at the present time.

Lt. Col. D. V. Currie (Sergeant-at-Arms and Director of Building Services): As far as the Sergeant-at-Arms staff is concerned, yes. There are no problems.

The Chairman: Your department is adequately staffed then; is that right? Mr. Lambert, what was the other question you addressed to the Sergeant-at-Arms?

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): The Sergeant-at-Arms is responsible for a number of matters in the House—the restaurant and other matters of that sort. What is the staffing problem? We have been looking at staff.

Lt. Col. Currie: None.

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): There are no problems at the present time? Well, that is fine. Now we can get back to you, Mr. Fraser.

Mr. Fraser: Your question, I think, had to do with the effect on the staff of extra sittings, by way of an hour or two at the end of a day or on a Wednesday night, or something of that nature. I think I will ask Mr. Small to elaborate on this, but so far as I can see the extension of the sitting by an hour means basically that the staff remains on for an extra hour. This is particularly the case so far as Hansard is concerned. An hour added is an hour lost so far as the staff is concerned.

• 0955

Of course, if I may say so with great respect, as you very well know many other employees are affected. There is our Journals branch; there are pages and messengers, and so on, under Colonel Currie's jurisdiction and all the supporting staff of that section of our organization that deals with the passage of paper through the House of Commons and with the various services that are given to members.

I do not know whether it makes any difference to our constabulary force, but certainly

[*Interpretation*]

M. Fraser: Colonel Currie, pouvez-vous présenter au Comité votre...

Le président: Colonel Currie, veuillez vous asseoir ici pour être plus près d'un microphone.

M. Fraser: Je vais paraphraser la question de M. Lambert, si je puis essayer de la poser pour lui. C'est de savoir si, à votre avis, nous avons assez de personnel à l'heure actuelle.

Lt Colonel Currie (Sergent d'Armes et directeur des services des immeubles): En ce qui concerne le personnel du Sergent d'armes, oui. Nous n'avons pas de problèmes.

Le président: Votre service a le personnel qu'il faut; est-ce exact?

Quelle était l'autre question que vous avez posée au Sergent d'armes, monsieur Lambert?

M. Lambert (Edmonton-Ouest): Le Sergent d'armes est chargé d'un certain nombre de services variés à la Chambre: le restaurant et autres services du genre. Quel est le problème en personnel? Nous étudions les questions de personnel.

Lt Colonel Currie: Il n'y a pas de problèmes.

M. Lambert (Edmonton-Ouest): Il n'y a pas de problèmes pour le moment? C'est bien. Maintenant nous pouvons revenir à vous, monsieur Fraser?

M. Fraser: Vous avez demandé l'effet sur le personnel des séances supplémentaires d'une heure ou deux à la fin de la journée ou le mercredi soir, par exemple. Je vais demander à M. Small peut-être de développer ma réponse, mais en ce qui me concerne, moi, et en autant que je puisse voir, le prolongement des heures des séances d'une heure, revient essentiellement à dire que le personnel reste une heure de plus. C'est particulièrement vrai en ce qui concerne le Hansard. Une heure de plus, c'est une heure perdue, en ce qui concerne le personnel.

Vous savez, et vous me permettrez de vous le dire en toute déférence, qu'un grand nombre d'autres employés sont mis en cause. Il y a la division de nos journaux; il y a les pages et les messagers et autres personnes qui relèvent du colonel Currie et tout le personnel de soutien de cette division de notre organisation qui s'occupe de la transmission des documents à la Chambre et aux divers services et de la diffusion de ces documents aux députés.

Je ne sais pas si cela touche, par exemple, les agents du service de protection, mais en

[*Texte*]

so far as our *Hansard, Journals* and those sorts of things are concerned, indeed added time means added time.

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): These personnel do not receive overtime, I take it.

Mr. Fraser: No, sir.

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): How do you adjust, then? Is it by being a little more tolerant towards them or giving them extra time off during the non-sitting periods, or is the pay for whatever grade of work set on the basis that many of them will be working up to 60 hours a week?

Mr. De Salaberry: Mr. Lambert, first of all we attempt to give time off in compensation for overtime. In the past three years we have paid overtime in the following fiscal year for any time that we have not been able to give in compensation for this overtime.

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): What does it entail with regard to delay in the production of the *Hansard* report the next morning, the *Votes and Proceedings* and all other documents? Suppose we sit until midnight; just what effect does this have on the target hour the next morning?

Mr. Small: It depends on how long you sit. In Canada, unlike the U.K. and the U.S.A. and other countries, we do not have a cut-off time. We publish in both languages; it has to be translated and printed, and our target is to have it, in a given set of circumstances, in the Chamber before the House meets. We do run into difficulty on Friday if the House sits late on Thursday.

The House meets at 11 o'clock; translation has to take place from English to French and from French to English; the amount of each language used in the Chamber is not constant. It will go from zero per cent in one language on one day to 50 or 75 per cent the next day, and this throws a factor of uncertainty on the Translation Bureau. Their staff are traditionally trained through experience to go from English into French. They have been compensating and improving in recent years to even this out and now we are at the point where the French edition quite often comes out ahead of the English, but this all depends on the language useage in the Chamber.

Generally speaking, where we ran into the worst difficulty was when the House

[*Interprétation*]

ce qui concerne le Hansard, les journaux, etc., mais du surtemps, c'est du surtemps.

M. Lambert (Edmonton-Ouest): Ce personnel ne touche pas de temps supplémentaire, n'est-ce pas?

M. Fraser: Non, Monsieur.

M. Lambert (Edmonton-Ouest): Comment cela se rattrape-t-il? Est-ce qu'on leur donne des congés supplémentaires entre les sessions? Est-ce qu'on se montre un peu plus tolérant? Comment fait-on? Ou, est-ce que le chiffre de leur traitement est fixé en fonction du fait qu'ils vont travailler parfois jusqu'à soixante heures par semaine?

M. De Salaberry: Monsieur Lambert, d'abord, nous essayons des congés pour compenser le surtemps. Au cours des trois dernières années, nous avons payé le surtemps dans l'année financière suivante au titre du temps que nous n'avons pas pu accorder en congé l'année précédente.

M. Lambert (Edmonton-Ouest): Qu'est-ce que cela entraîne en ce qui a trait aux retards dans la préparation du *Hansard*, des *Crédits et des Délibérations*, la journée suivante? Est-ce que cela change l'heure de parution du Hansard le lendemain matin?

M. Small: Cela, évidemment, dépend de la longueur de la séance. Au Canada, contrairement à ce qui se passe au Royaume-Uni, aux États-Unis et ailleurs, nous n'avons pas d'heure limite. Nous publions dans les deux langues. Il faut que ce soit traduit et imprimé. Et nous cherchons, dans des circonstances données, à faire paraître le Hansard avant le début de la séance du lendemain. La difficulté survient le vendredi, lorsque la Chambre a siégé tard le jeudi.

La Chambre se réunit à 11 heures; il faut que la traduction se fasse du français à l'anglais, de l'anglais au français; la proportion des deux langues pour une journée en particulier, peut varier. Cela peut passer de 0 p. 100 dans une journée, à 50 ou 75 p. 100 le lendemain, ce qui, évidemment, fait peser une certaine incertitude dans le Bureau des traductions. Ils ont l'habitude, en général, de passer de l'anglais au français. La situation s'est améliorée, évidemment, pendant les dernières années, en ce qui concerne la traduction dans l'autre sens. Il arrive assez souvent que le français sort avant l'anglais. Toutefois, cela dépend, évidemment de la proportion des langues utilisées à la Chambre.

Généralement parlant, la pire difficulté que nous avons rencontrée, c'est lorsque la

[*Text*]

adjourned, after sitting late, to have Committees sit the next day. The translators worked until seven o'clock in the morning and the committees started to meet at 9 o'clock and 10 o'clock, and we lost the services of the Debates Translation Bureau for the use of Committees. This has an offsetting effect; how late you sit determines what we can do with the staff the next day.

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): What about the translators that we are now using in this Committee, for instance, and in all of the other committees? I noticed that there is a duplication of personnel. I see simultaneous translators appearing at committee sessions and then I see the same ones sitting in the House.

Mr. Small: Yes; perhaps Mr. Mayer should have been here to answer this but I can give a brief answer for him, at least. The Translation Bureau has a pool of interpreters who service not only the House of Commons Chamber and its committees but also the Senate and Senate committees including government departments and agencies. They are on a rotational basis. They go from one area to another and service these different areas. I would say that they have somewhere between 15 and 20 interpreters. I am just giving an estimate; I am not sure but I think it is between 15 and 20 interpreters.

I know they are trying to recruit more. They have courses going to train translators in conjunction with the University of Montreal; they are starting one with the University of Ottawa, and it is from this general area that they recruit the better type of persons as interpreters.

• 1000

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): What impact does it have on the interpreters when we have these late sittings and then early committee hearings the following day?

Mr. Small: From what I have heard, it is quite difficult. Mr. Robichaud is here and I would suggest that perhaps he could answer that question better than I could.

Mr. R. Robichaud (Senior Interpreter, Simultaneous Interpretation, House of Commons): Mr. Lambert, you wanted to know the impact these committee sittings have on the staff.

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): What I wanted to know, frankly, is the impact of

[*Interpretation*]

Chambre s'est ajournée pour que les comités siègent le jour suivant. A cette séance, la Chambre avait siégé très tard. Les traducteurs ont travaillé, à ce moment-là, jusqu'à 7 heures du matin. Les comités ont commencé à se réunir à 9 heures et à 10 heures de la matinée. Et nous avons perdu les services du Bureau de traduction des débats pour les comités. Bref, ceci a un effet de compensation assez malheureux; de la longueur de la séance dépend le rendement du personnel le lendemain.

M. Lambert (Edmonton-Ouest): Par exemple, qu'en est-il des interprètes qui travaillent actuellement au présent Comité et dans tous les autres Comités. Je vois les mêmes interprètes aux séances de comités et à la Chambre.

M. Small: Oui; M. Mayer, aurait dû être ici pour répondre à cette question, mais je peux au moins répondre brièvement à sa place. Le Bureau des traductions a une équipe d'interprètes qui dessert non seulement la Chambre des communes et ses comités, mais le Sénat également et les comités du Sénat. Ils travaillent par équipe. Ils vont d'un endroit à un autre, constamment, et desservent ces différents secteurs. Ils sont entre 15 et 20 interprètes. C'est un chiffre approximatif. C'est à peu près de 15 à 20.

Je sais qu'on essaie d'en recruter davantage. On a des cours pour former les interprètes avec la collaboration de l'Université de Montréal pour former des traducteurs; un cours doit également débuter à l'Université d'Ottawa, et c'est de ce secteur général qu'on recrute les meilleurs interprètes.

M. Lambert (Edmonton-Ouest): Quelle est la situation en ce qui concerne les interprètes lorsque nous siégeons très tard et lorsqu'il y a des séances de comités tôt le lendemain?

M. Small: D'après ce qu'ils m'ont dit, il est assez difficile. M. Robichaud est ici je pense qu'il pourrait probablement répondre à cette question mieux que moi.

M. R. Robichaud (Chef interprète, Chambre des communes): Monsieur Lambert, vous voulez savoir quelles sont les répercussions sur le personnel lorsque les Comités siègent le matin?

M. Lambert (Edmonton-Ouest): Qu'est-ce qui se passe lorsqu'il y a des séances supplé-

[*Texte*]

additional House sittings and all these additional and supplementary sittings of committees on your particular staff. The reason I ask is that it seems to me, with the greatest respect to all concerned, that there was practically nil consultation when it was blindly decided to abolish the Committee of Supply and change the legislative process, that this was merely done as a result of a decision and the staff merely had to adapt itself.

Mr. Robichaud: I think that is generally true. The effect of course is bad. It has added enormously to the workload on Tuesdays and Thursdays—I would say about 40 per cent. It has required more staff. We could manage a year ago with about eleven people; now we need on peak days, on Tuesday and Thursday mornings, about sixteen. This of course means that at least four of the people who have been there until 10.30 at night have to be back at 9.30 the next day. And if the House extends its sitting, on a Thursday especially, as it has done, it means that some people have on occasion gone home at midnight and been back on deck at 9.30 in the morning. This is infrequent but it can happen.

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton-West): My next question can be fielded of course by any one of the House officers. As the result of changes in the legislative process and in the committee system, have there been savings in any areas to compensate for these additional burdens imposed upon staff? Have we made any gains anywhere or is this going to be accomplished entirely as the result of increases in staff and in costs in the House of Commons? I am trying to put a cost value on the dollars that we are spending.

Mr. Small: I would say that on the volume of work that is being turned out now you are saving a good many dollars because of the fact that we do not have the necessary staff yet to perform it—if that is the import of your question, Mr. Lambert.

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): I do not know that it is necessarily a saving of energy to limp along on one foot and on one crutch—and this is what we are doing now. You are short staffed and you are limping along on a crutch, by people putting in extra hours and cutting corners.

Mr. Small: Well, a vacuum is a vacuum.

Mr. Robichaud: Mr. Lambert, I do not know whether I should venture this opinion, but you probably have noticed that this bilingual edition of the committee reports has been saving us perhaps six months in the

[*Interprétation*]

mentaires de la Chambre, des séances supplémentaires des Comités, quelles sont les répercussions sur votre personnel? Il me semble, en toute déférence pour tous les intéressés, il n'y a eu aucune consultation lorsqu'on a décidé d'abolir le Comité des subsides, on a fait cela à la suite d'une décision pure et simple et le personnel a dû simplement s'adapter.

M. Robichaud: C'est assez vrai. L'effet est très mauvais. Les mardis et les jeudis, notre travail a considérablement augmenté, il a augmenté d'environ 40 p. 100. Il nous a fallu plus de personnel. On pouvait pas s'en sortir. Il y a un an ou deux, avec 11 interprètes nous arrivions à faire face à la demande, maintenant il nous en faut au moins 16 le mardi et le jeudi, ce qui veut dire qu'au moins quatre interprètes restent jusqu'à 10 heures et demie le soir, doivent être le lendemain matin à 9 heures et demie. Lorsque vous siégez plus longtemps, certains rentrent chez eux à minuit et ils doivent se retrouver à pied d'œuvre le lendemain matin à 9 heures et demie. C'est un cas rare, mais cela se produit.

M. Lambert (Edmonton-Ouest): Tout le monde peut répondre à ma prochaine question. A la suite des changements du processus législatif et du système des Comités, est-ce que l'on a fait des économies dans certains domaines pour compenser ces demandes supplémentaires? Est-ce que nous avons gagné quoi que ce soit à la suite de ces changements? Ou bien est-ce que cela a simplement entraîné des coûts supplémentaires en matière de personnel ou de crédits?

M. Small: En ce qui concerne le volume de travail, on économise pas mal de dollars car nous n'avons pas encore le personnel nécessaire pour faire ce travail. Est-ce que c'est bien là votre question, monsieur Lambert?

M. Lambert (Edmonton-Ouest): Je ne sais pas si c'est vraiment une économie que de sauter sur une béquille. Et c'est ce qui se passe maintenant. Vous avez des gens qui travaillent en surtemps et on essaie de rogner de tous les côtés possibles.

M. Small: C'est difficile de faire autrement.

M. Robichaud: Monsieur Lambert, me permettrez-vous de répondre? Je ne sais pas si je devrais risquer une opinion. Vous avez sans doute remarqué que l'édition bilingue des rapports de comité nous ont économisé six

[*Text*]

preparation of the translation. This is done in a two or three stage process.

The interpretation is transcribed, then edited, and to that extent I should think it is much cheaper—Mr. Fraser can correct me if I am wrong—than the old system which consisted in having it done by a large number of translators or, in the last few years, having it farmed out at one and one-half cents a word. So at least to that extent I think perhaps some saving has been accomplished, but I really would not know.

• 1005

Mr. Small: I think the greatest advantage is that the Minutes of Proceedings and Evidence are printed much more quickly. In the case of priority committees they come out within a day or two, and when they do come out they come out in both languages.

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): Yes, I think that we all have noticed this very great improvement in that part of it. I suppose one of the reasons was that there were no blues turned over to ministerial offices for examination for ten days or two weeks which I have known to happen. But where you have indicated changes as the result of modifying our system, resulting in shortages of staff, I want to make sure that the changes we have made have really been effective. Also, I want to ascertain the degree of consultation that took place with the staff officers prior to the decision having been reached that we would abolish the Committee of Supply and would change our legislative process, as we have done.

Mr. Fraser: Of course, sir, that is a matter of policy for the House. The staff officers were not consulted on it, nor did I expect that they would be at the time.

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): Well, I will reserve my opinion, Mr. Fraser. I think it is quite unrealistic to change a complete system without consulting the staff who have to carry it out.

Mr. Fraser: Of course, sir, the major change has been, as you have indicated, shifting the emphasis onto the committees.

I must say, on behalf of Mr. Small, that I think he has done a remarkable job over the years, because we have at all times had to wait for the various reports of the various committees on procedure. What we have tried to do is to anticipate what we thought they might do and have adjusted accordingly as time went on. That is what has happened. And as a result of the most recent decision of

[*Interpretation*]

mois dans la préparation de la traduction. Le processus comporte deux ou trois étapes.

L'interprétation est transcrite puis corrigée et je crois que cela est beaucoup plus économique, et monsieur Fraser pourra me corriger si cela n'est pas exact. Au lieu de faire faire la traduction par un grand nombre de traducteurs, au cours de ces dernières années, on affermait la traduction des comités à 1½ cents le mot. Là je pense qu'il y a une économie mais je n'en suis pas certain.

M. Small: Le plus grand avantage est que la production sort beaucoup plus vite. Dans le cas de certains Comités prioritaires, le délai est d'un jour ou deux et lorsque le texte sort, il sort dans les deux langues.

M. Lambert (Edmonton-Ouest): Nous avons tous remarqué cette très grande amélioration. Vous nous avez indiqué que ces changements, à la suite de modifications de notre système, se heurtent aussi à une pénurie de personnel, je voudrais être certain que les changements que nous avons apportés ont été vraiment efficaces. Je voudrais également être sûr qu'il y a eu une certaine consultation. Est-ce qu'il y a eu des consultations avec les hauts fonctionnaires avant de supprimer le Comité des subsides. Je voudrais savoir s'il y a eu des consultations?

M. Fraser: C'est une question de politique de la Chambre. Avant de modifier le comité des subsides les fonctionnaires n'ont pas été consultés et je ne pensais pas à l'époque qu'ils le seraient.

M. Lambert (Edmonton-Ouest): Je réserve mon opinion, monsieur Fraser. C'est une preuve de manque de réalisme que de modifier un système sans consulter le personnel qui est en cause.

M. Fraser: On a mis l'accent sur les Comités, je dois dire, de la part de M. Small, qu'à mon avis, il a fait un excellent travail, au cours des années, quand nous avons dû attendre les rapports des comités de la procédure. Nous avons essayé de nous adapter à l'avance aux décisions que nous attendions et à la suite des décisions récentes du Comité, telles qu'elles figurent dans la modification de notre Règlement, nous essayons maintenant de former un personnel de soutien qui nous permettra de faire face à la situation. Je pense que

[*Texte*]

the Committee, as enacted into our Standing Orders, we are now trying to build up a supporting staff by recruitment, which will take care of the situation. I think our principal problem is not so much staff as space to put them in.

M. Lambert (Edmonton-Ouest): Merci, monsieur le président.

Le président: Monsieur Clermont?

M. Clermont: Monsieur le président, au sujet des rapports de comité sur une base d'interprétation, est-ce que je pourrais savoir de M. Small si cette expérience est heureuse? J'admets qu'elle est très efficace pour nous faire parvenir ces rapports beaucoup plus rapidement. En plus, est-ce que le fait d'imprimer les fascicules sur la base d'interprétation donne satisfaction selon votre expérience, monsieur Small?

Mr. Small: I have not heard of a single complaint from any member. I know of one complaint from one witness. Although this was a bilingual edition, we were still using separate English and French translated versions at the time. On investigation we found that the interpretation was actually the more accurate of the two. I think experience has shown that by using the interpreter's version and revising it by the use of well qualified translators we can come up with, in my opinion, a much better version than we were getting of the translation when it was farmed out to people who were too remote from the scene and who had no comprehension of what went on in a committee.

M. Clermont: Monsieur le président, est-ce que le service de l'interprétation est sous la juridiction de la Chambre des communes?

Mr. Small: No, the interpretation staff comes under the Translation Bureau of the Department of the Secretary of State.

M. Clermont: Mais alors, est-ce que cela ne représente pas des inconvénients pour le travail de la Chambre des communes, par exemple, pour avoir une traduction plus rapide? Ne serait-il pas préférable que le personnel de l'interprétation et de la traduction attaché à la Chambre des communes soit sous la responsabilité de la Cambre des communes?

Il est sans doute un peu difficile pour vous de répondre à cette question, c'en est peut-être une de politique gouvernementale, mais je crois que je peux tout de même la poser sans vous embarrasser, car j'ai eu des critiques à ce sujet. Ne croyez-vous pas que si le service de traduction pour la Chambre des

[*Interprétation*]

le problème n'est pas tellement de trouver des gens mais de savoir où les loger.

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

The Chairman: Mr. Clermont?

Mr. Clermont: Mr. Chairman, concerning the Committee reports based on interpretation, could Mr. Small tell me whether this is a successful experiment? I have to admit that it is very efficient in having these reports delivered to us far more rapidly. Furthermore, are you satisfied, Mr. Small, with having the pointed texts based on interpretation?

M. Small: Il n'y a eu aucune plainte de députés. Il y a eu une plainte d'un témoin, nous avons fait une enquête dans un cas, et dans ce cas particulier, il s'agissait d'une édition bilingue mais on se servait alors de la version traduite séparément en français et en anglais. A la suite d'une enquête nous avons constaté que l'interprétation était plus exacte que la traduction. D'après notre expérience, la version des interprètes, revisée—nous la revisons avec des traducteurs très compétents—et nous avons, à mon avis, une version bien supérieure à celle obtenue grâce à la traduction donnée à des gens qui sont trop loin du Parlement, qui ne comprennent pas vraiment ce qui se passe au Comité.

Mr. Clermont: Mr. Chairman, is the interpretation service under the jurisdiction of the House of Commons?

M. Small: Non, le personnel d'interprétation dépend du Bureau des traductions du Secrétariat d'État.

Mr. Clermont: Does this not cause certain inconveniences in obtaining a quicker translation of the work done in the House of Commons, for instance? Would it not be preferable if the interpreters and the translators working for the House of Commons were under the responsibility of the House of Commons?

It might be somewhat difficult for you to answer. Maybe this is a question of government policy, but I am sure I can put this question without embarrassing you because I have heard some criticisms on this subject. Don't you think that if the translation service for the House of Commons were put under

[*Text*]

communes devenait la responsabilité de celle-ci, que le service serait plus adéquat?

Mr. Small: I see no reason to disagree with you there, Mr. Clermont. The problem is that we do not have that many interpreters, and it is a question of maximum utilization of what is presently available.

M. Clermont: N'est-ce pas la pratique présentement, pour chaque ministère, d'avoir son propre service de traduction?

M. Robichaud: Non, monsieur Clermont. Aux termes de la Loi sur le Bureau des traductions de 1934, toute la traduction du gouvernement est centralisée sous la responsabilité générale du Secrétaire d'État. Le Bureau des traductions est une des grandes directions du secrétariat d'État, en fait la plus grande, et il existe dans chaque ministère une division de la traduction dépendant du Bureau des traductions, donc du Secrétaire d'État.

M. Clermont: La même chose que pour la Chambre des communes.

M. Robichaud: Exactement la même chose que pour la Chambre des communes. Il y a trois divisions, ou quatre maintenant, avec l'interprétation parlementaire: celle de la traduction des Débats qui, en principe, ne fait que les Débats de la Chambre et du Sénat; la division qu'on appelle législative qui était autrefois au quatrième ici, mais qui est maintenant matériellement plus près du ministère de la Justice, mais demeure toujours une division parlementaire. Il y avait autrefois ce qu'on appelait la division des Livres bleus qui s'occupait des Comités, elle est devenue la division générale et ne fait plus de travail parlementaire; et il y a la mienne, qui est au parlement, et dépend aussi du Bureau des traductions.

M. Clermont: Puis-je me permettre de poser une question au témoin qui vient justement de faire des commentaires? Croyez-vous que ce ne serait pas plus pratique pour la Chambre des communes d'avoir la responsabilité de son service de traduction et d'interprétation?

M. Robichaud: Écoutez, c'est encore une fois une question de politique générale, et je ne voudrais répondre ni oui ni non. En ce qui concerne la division des Débats, personnellement, je ne crois pas que cela ferait la moindre différence. Un messager part d'ici toutes les demi-heures porter le texte à l'immeuble Blackburn, où il le laisse et cela apparaît le lendemain. Parfois, comme le disait M. Small, la traduction paraît avant l'original; c'est

[*Interpretation*]

the latter's responsibility, that this service would be more adequate?

M. Small: Je ne vois aucune raison de ne pas être d'accord avec vous, monsieur Clermont. Nous n'avons pas tant d'interprètes. C'est une question d'utilisation maximum du personnel disponible actuellement.

Mr. Clermont: Is it not the practice at present for each Department to have its own translation service?

Mr. Robichaud: No, Mr. Clermont. According to the 1934 Translation Bureau Act, all translation for government is centralized under the Secretary of State. The Translation Bureau is one of the major departments of the Secretary of State, the largest in fact, and in each Department there is a translation division under the Translation Bureau, and hence under the Secretary of State.

Mr. Clermont: The same thing as for the House of Commons.

Mr. Robichaud: Exactly the same thing as for the House of Commons. There are three divisions, four now, including Parliamentary Interpretation, the Debates Division which, in principle, does only the debates of the House of Commons and Senate, the Legislative Division which was at one time on the fourth floor here, but which is now located closer to the Department of Justice while remaining a parliamentary division. Formerly we had what was called the Blue Book Division for Committees which is now the General Translation Division now and no longer does parliamentary work. And there is my own division which is in the House and which is also under the Translation Bureau.

Mr. Clermont: Could I put a question to the witness who has just made comments? Do you not believe that it would be more practical for the House of Commons to be responsible for its own translation and interpretation service?

Mr. Robichaud: Once again, it is a question of general policy and I cannot answer yes or no. So far as concerns the Debates Division, personally, I do not believe it would make the slightest difference. There is a messenger leaving every half hour from here for the Blackburn Building where he leaves the text which appears next day in translation. As Mr. Small said, sometimes the translation is published before the original text. This is rare

[*Texte*]

plutôt rare, mais cela arrive. Alors, de ce point de vue-là, je ne pense pas que cela puisse améliorer beaucoup les choses.

En ce qui a trait à l'interprétation, ce serait, je pense, assez absurde du point de vue financier, d'avoir 16 interprètes, mettons, qui travailleraient le mardi et le jeudi alors que nous pouvons très bien faire le service parlementaire avec six ou sept interprètes le lundi et le vendredi, et même avec cinq le mercredi. Cela vous ferait 10 à 11 bons hommes ou bonnes femmes qui n'auraient pas grand chose à faire. Et je crois que c'est la grande considération.

M. Clermont: Monsieur le président, voici. Je voudrais poursuivre mes remarques au sujet du personnel tombant sous la juridiction du sergent d'armes. Monsieur le président, en ma qualité de député d'une circonscription de la région de la capitale nationale, je reçois de temps à autre, de façon indirecte, des critiques au sujet du personnel bilingue de faction aux entrées principales, soit de l'immeuble central ou de celui de l'ouest; quant à l'immeuble de l'est, je n'ai pas eu de critiques à ce sujet, et je dois dire aussi qu'il y a eu des améliorations à cet égard.

Mais ne peut-on entrevoir encore d'autres améliorations, monsieur le président, car Ottawa, étant la capitale nationale, je crois que tout visiteur qui se présente soit à l'immeuble de l'Ouest, là où sont les bureaux de la plupart des députés, ou à l'immeuble central, siège du Parlement canadien, je crois que chaque Canadien, dis-je qu'il soit d'expression anglaise ou française, lorsqu'il se présente à ces deux édifices-là, devrait être capable d'obtenir une réponse dans sa langue.

Ne peut-on espérer, monsieur le président, et ceci s'adresse au sergent d'armes, qu'il y aura d'autres améliorations à ce sujet? Car, je le répète encore une fois, nous recevons des critiques à ce propos. Qu'il s'agisse de Canadiens d'expression anglaise ou française, je maintiens, monsieur le président, que ces personnes-là devraient pouvoir demander des renseignements dans leur langue et qu'on leur réponde dans cette même langue.

Lt. Col. Currie: You are referring, Mr. Clermont, to the Protective Staff mainly, I presume.

Mr. Clermont: Yes; if it were the RCMP they are not under your supervision and I would not direct that kind of question to you.

Lt. Col. Currie: There has been this problem in the past but I think we have rectified. We have bilingual people on both doors now.

[*Interprétation*]

but it does happen. So, from that viewpoint, I do not believe that that would improve anything.

So far as concerns interpretation, it would be rather absurd from a financial point of view to have 16 interpreters, let us say, working on Thursdays and Tuesdays when we can very well do the parliamentary work with six or seven interpreters on Mondays and on Fridays, and even with five on Wednesdays. You would have 11 or 12 men or women who would not have much to do, and this is, I believe, really the major consideration.

Mr. Clermont: Mr. Chairman, I would like to go on discussing the staff under the Sergeant-at-Arms. Mr. Chairman, as a member from a riding in the national capital area, I receive now and then criticism in an indirect manner, concerning bilingual staff on duty at the main entrances of the Centre Block and the West Block. So far as the East Block is concerned, I have not had any criticism, and I must also add that there has been some improvement in this respect. However, Mr. Chairman, could we not expect some further improvement, because Ottawa being the national capital, I believe that all visitors presenting themselves either to the West Block which is where most members have their offices or the Centre Block where the Canadian Parliament sits, I believe that Canadians, whether French-speaking or English-speaking, who go to these two buildings should be able to have somebody capable of answering them in their own language.

Mr. Chairman—this question is really directed to the Sergeant-at-Arms—could we not hope to bring further improvements to this situation because, I repeat once again, we are being criticized with respect to this. I maintain that whether you are French-speaking or English-speaking, you should be able to ask for information in your own language and have an answer in your own language.

M. Currie: Vous parlez du personnel de garde, monsieur Clermont.

M. Clermont: Oui. En ce qui concerne la Gendarmerie royale, elle n'est pas sous votre juridiction. Je ne vous poserai pas cette question.

M. Currie: Dans chaque cas, nous avons eu ce genre de problèmes par le passé mais je pense que nous y avons remédié. Nous avons

[*Text*]

We have had this complaint the odd time but we have tried to arrange it so that we always have bilingual people on the entrances.

M. Clermont: Oui, mais, monsieur le président, les plaintes que nous recevons ont toujours trait au fait que c'est le personnel d'expression française qui est obligé d'être de faction à ces entrées-là, parce qu'ils sont en majorité les seules personnes bilingues. Alors, pourquoi ces officiers-là seraient-ils toujours tenus d'être aux portes centrales pour répondre aux exigences du bilinguisme?

M. Lambert (Edmonton-Ouest): Eh bien, est-ce que je peux interpréter? Il y a...

Le président: Nous allons voir si M. Currie veut continuer à répondre.

M. Lambert (Edmonton-Ouest): Oui, mais j'aimerais aussi dire quelque chose là-dessus.

M. Clermont: Très bien, vous avez le droit, monsieur Lambert. Mais c'est nous qui recevons les critiques de la part des agents de service bilingues.

La plupart du temps, ce sont toujours les mêmes personnes qui doivent être aux portes centrales, particulièrement en fin de semaine. Pourquoi serait-ce toujours les mêmes qui seraient obligées d'être en service le samedi et le dimanche?

Lt. Col. Currie: No, there is nobody. If you mean the Protective Staff the same officers are on duty always over the weekends. No, this is not the case. The members of the Protective Staff...

Mr. Clermont: You had better be careful, Mr. Sergeant-at-Arms. All right—give your answer.

Lt. Col. Currie: The members of the Protective Staff divide Saturdays, Sundays and holidays on an equitable basis throughout the year. In other words, there are so many holidays when each one of them has to work and this is the way it is divided. About 30 per cent of the Protective Staff is bilingual. I admit that this is the lowest percentage on the staff.

About 67 per cent are not bilingual so that those that are bilingual have to occupy the posts; that is, the main entrances, but I am sure they do not do it on an inequitable basis. In other words, they are not stuck every weekend or every holiday, as it were. We have a permanent man on the front door who is bilingual—a corporal—but all the rest of the people rotate.

[*Interpretation*]

des gens bilingues aux deux portes principales maintenant. Parfois, nous avons eu ce genre de plaintes, mais nous avons pris des dispositions de façon à avoir toujours au moins un garde bilingue aux entrées.

Mr. Clermont: However, Mr. Chairman, it is always the French-speaking staff which have to be on duty at these entrances because generally, they are the only bilingual persons. So, why should those officers always have to be there on duty at the main doors to fulfil the requirements of bilingualism?

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): Could I intervene?

The Chairman: We shall see whether Mr. Currie wishes to go on answering questions.

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): Yes, but I would also like to say something about that.

Mr. Clermont: You are entitled to do so, Mr. Lambert. But it is we who receive such criticisms from bilingual officers.

Most of the time it is the same individuals who have to be on duty at the main entrances particularly on weekends. Why should it always be the same officers who have to be on duty on Saturday, and Sunday?

M. Currie: Non il n'y a personne. Si vous voulez parler du personnel de garde, les mêmes gardes font le service de fin de semaine. Ce n'est pas le cas, ici. Les membres du personnel de garde ..

M. Clermont: Soyez prudent, monsieur le sergent d'armes. Donnez votre réponse.

M. Currie: Les membres du personnel de protection se divisent les samedis et les dimanches, et les jours fériés de façon égale pour toute l'année. Il y a tant de jours de vacances pendant lesquels ces gens doivent travailler, et on les répartit également. Nous avons environ 30 p. 100 des gens bilingues dans le personnel de protection. C'est un pourcentage extrêmement faible, je le reconnais. Il y a 67 p. 100 qui ne sont pas bilingues. Ceux qui sont bilingues doivent occuper les postes, c'est-à-dire les portes principales. Je suis certain qu'ils ne le font pas de façon injuste. Ils ne sont pas coincés là toutes les fins de semaine ou pendant toutes les vacances. Nous avons un caporal bilingue à la porte principale, mais les autres font le service chacun à leur tour.

[*Texte*]

Mr. Clermont: Yes, but those that are not bilingual do not rotate at the main door.

Lt. Col. Currie: Some do and some do not. There are some people we cannot put at the main door; they are not suited for that job.

Mr. Clermont: I know that.

Lt. Col. Currie: They do not want to go there.

M. Clermont: Monsieur le président, je ne pousserai pas plus loin mes questions dans ce domaine. Mais j'espère que l'année prochaine, lorsque les crédits du Parlement seront étudiés par ce Comité ou un autre, le pourcentage de 37 p. 100 sera augmenté. Mais pour ce qui est de la capitale nationale, je ne parle pas d'un bilinguisme sur le plan national, je ne m'attends pas à ce qu'un fonctionnaire de Victoria soit bilingue mais pour ce qui est de la capitale nationale, dis-je, surtout aux alentours du Parlement, je crois que lorsqu'un Canadien d'expression anglaise ou française se présente à l'immeuble central ou celui de l'ouest soit pour voir son député ou soit pour visiter la Chambre des communes, il devrait pouvoir recevoir une réponse dans sa langue. Je voudrais poser ma question: est-ce que monsieur Lambert . . .

M. Lambert (Edmonton-Ouest): J'aimerais faire un commentaire, monsieur le président. La Capitale nationale n'est pas la réserve exclusive des gens qui demeurent aux alentours d'Ottawa. Si une personne francophone qui se présente à la Chambre pour demander des renseignements, s'adresse à un officier uniquement anglophone du service de protection, celui-ci peut bien demander un autre officier. Il s'agit qu'il y ait une ou deux personnes qui puissent parler très bien le français. Je défends le droit d'un individu qualifié de Calgary ou de Victoria, qu'il soit ancien combattant, etc., d'être embauché. Ceci n'est pas la réserve des députés de la région.

M. Clermont: Monsieur le président, pour répondre à M. Lambert, je n'ai pas donné l'impression dans mes remarques que c'était la réserve seulement des députés de la région de la Capitale nationale. J'ai dit, monsieur le président, que lorsqu'un Canadien soit d'expression anglaise ou soit d'expression française se présente à la porte centrale de l'édifice de l'Ouest pour voir son député ou à la porte centrale de l'édifice du Parlement pour venir voir siéger le Parlement, s'il s'adresse en anglais, on lui réponde dans sa langue, et s'il s'adresse en français, on lui réponde dans sa langue. C'est la seule chose qu'on demande.

[*Interprétation*]

M. Clermont: Mais ceux qui ne sont pas bilingues ne font pas de rotation à la porte principale?

M. Currie: Certains oui, certains non. Il y en a que nous ne pouvons pas mettre à la porte principale. Ils ne peuvent pas s'adapter à ce travail.

M. Clermont: Je suis au courant.

M. Currie: Ils ne veulent pas faire de service à cet endroit.

Mr. Clermont: Mr. Chairman, I will not proceed any further with this line of questioning. However, I hope that next year when the Estimates for Parliament will be studied by our Committee or by another Committee, that the percentage of 37 per cent be increased. But with regard to the national capital—I am not talking about bilingualism on the national level—I do not expect a civil servant in Victoria to be bilingual, but in the national capital, particularly around our Parliament, I believe that when a French-speaking or an English-speaking Canadian goes to the Centre Block or the West Block either to see their Member or to visit the House of Commons, should be able to expect an answer in his own language. Now I would like to direct my question to Mr. Lambert.

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): I would like to make a comment, Mr. Chairman. The National Capital is not the exclusive preserve of people living around Ottawa. If a French speaking person should present himself at the House to ask for directions and speaks to an officer of the protection service who only knows English, the latter can always ask for another officer. It is a matter of having one or two people around who speak French very well. I defend the right of a qualified individual from Calgary or Victoria, whether he is a veteran, and so on, to be hired on the staff. This is not the preserve of members from the area.

Mr. Clermont: Mr. Chairman, to answer Mr. Lambert, I have not given the impression in my remarks that this was the preserve for the members of the National Capital area. Mr. Chairman, I said that when a Canadian, whether he be French-speaking or English-speaking, goes to the main entrance of the West Block to see his Member, or when he goes to the main entrance of the Centre Block to see Parliament in action, if he speaks English, he should get an answer in English, and if he speaks French, he should have an answer in French. That is all we ask. We are not asking for miracles, Mr. Lambert.

[*Text*]

On ne demande pas des miracles, monsieur Lambert.

M. Lambert (Edmonton-Ouest): On exige alors un personnel complètement bilingue, en toute occasion, n'est-ce pas? C'est absolument ce que vous demandez.

M. Clermont: En fin de compte...

Le président: Je ne pourrai pas accepter un débat entre MM. Clermont et Lambert. Si vous avez des questions au sujet des prévisions budgétaires posez-les aux officiers qui sont ici pour témoigner.

M. Lambert (Edmonton-Ouest): Monsieur le président, j'invoque le Règlement. Tout débat concernant les crédits est déféré maintenant aux comités. Nous ne sommes pas restreints à seulement demander des questions. Il y a un échange de points de vue; j'accepte ce que dit M. Clermont, mais d'un autre côté, je veux exprimer aussi le point de vue d'un député de l'extérieur de la région de la Capitale nationale qui est intéressé à recommander certains individus. Car, nous recevons des demandes de gens qui aimeraient travailler ici. Nous pourrions les recommander au Président afin qu'ils soient examinés selon les règlements; mais, on nous a barré la porte, il y a longtemps. C'est comme une réserve exclusive pour les députés de la région.

M. Clermont: Monsieur le président, j'appuie M. Lambert. Il a adressé ses commentaires au président; j'adresse mes commentaires au président en réponse à des commentaires faits par M. Lambert. Il prétend que certaines nominations appartiennent aux députés de la région. J'aimerais qu'il me donne le secret, parce que je ne le connais pas.

Le président: J'aurais une question à poser au Colonel Currie au sujet du pourcentage des officiers de sécurité sur la Colline parlementaire. On a répondu tout à l'heure que le pourcentage est 37 p. 100 et 63 p. 100. Est-ce qu'il y a une raison particulière pour que ces pourcentages ne soient pas plus égaux?

Lt. Col. Currie: It has been a question; the percentage was greater than that when I first came here. I have been here just about 10 years and in this period I have recruited a greater percentage of bilingual people. There have been some that are not bilingual, but I am recruiting all veterans—veterans of World War II or the Korean War—who had overseas military service and where possible I am recruiting bilingual people.

• 1025

Now, up to a couple of years ago I did not have too much choice at the people I had to

[*Interpretation*]

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): Then you ask a completely bilingual staff at all times—that is what you are asking for?

Mr. Clermont: Well, it comes down to ...

The Chairman: Gentlemen, I cannot accept a debate between Mr. Lambert and Mr. Clermont. If you have any questions concerning the estimates, put them to the officers who are here to give evidence.

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): A point of order, Mr. Chairman. Any debate on the votes is now referred to the committees. We can go further than merely asking questions. We can exchange points of view. I accept what Mr. Clermont said, but on the other hand, I also want to express the point of view of a member who is not from the National Capital Area and who is interested in recommending certain individuals. We have requests from people who want to work here. We could recommend them to the Chairman as possible candidates to be examined according to the rules, but this was refused to us a long time ago. It is as though it were an exclusive preserve for Members from this area.

Mr. Clermont: I support Mr. Lambert. Mr. Lambert spoke to the Chairman, and I speak to the Chairman in answer to what Mr. Lambert said. He pretends that some appointments are reserved for the Members of this area. I would like to know his secret, because I do not know it.

The Chairman: I would like to ask Colonel Currie a question concerning the percentage of security officers on Parliament Hill. We were told earlier that the percentage was 37 per cent and 63 per cent. Is there any particular reason why these percentages are not more equal?

M. Currie: Le pourcentage était plus élevé que lorsque je suis arrivé ici. Je suis ici depuis à peu près 10 ans et, au cours de cette période, j'ai recruté un plus grand pourcentage de bilingues. Il y en a encore qui ne sont pas bilingues, mais je recrute uniquement des anciens combattants de la Deuxième guerre mondiale ou de la guerre de Corée qui ont fait leur service militaire outre-mer; dans la mesure du possible, je recrute des gens

bilingues. Jusqu'à il y a quelques années, je n'avais pas tellement le choix. Je ne veux pas

[*Texte*]

take. I do not want to go into that subject, but in the last three years I have had pretty well a choice. I do not remember the exact figure, but about 80 per cent of those that have been recruited in the last few years are bilingual. Now, to change this completely would be a quite difficult job. You would have to take 25 per cent of the staff and throw them out.

The Chairman: You mentioned that the main criterion for employing a security serviceman is military service. He has to be a veteran first?

Lt. Col. Currie: This is the criterion laid down at the moment. He has to be a veteran and, if possible, a veteran with overseas military service in World War II.

The Chairman: I see. Mr. Thomson?

Mr. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Mr. Chairman, I was wondering whether any of this staff could take a second language under the language training program. Is there any possibility?

Lt. Col. Currie: Well, the main problem is that we do not have enough staff to take three or four away to send on a course. Mr. de Salaberry and I have been giving that very careful consideration. We have had, as you know, a general language training course for members of Parliament who we think are priority people. We realize and recognize that as much as possible we should attempt to make the advantage of the extra language available to members of our staff, and we are certainly thinking about this most seriously.

Mr. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Mr. Chairman, in terms of time, I too would like to take a second language or work on it more. I have this problem; I hope to work at it more in the future, too.

The Chairman: Do you have another question, Mr. Thomson?

Mr. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): I have further questions on another matter not related to this.

M. Clermont: Monsieur le président, par ses réponses, le Sergent d'armes a confirmé ce que j'avais prétendu, c'est-à-dire que depuis quelques années, il y a eu amélioration dans ce champ d'action. Nous félicitons ceux qui sont responsables de cette amélioration, parce qu'il a dit que depuis trois ans, 90 p. 100 de ceux qui ont été engagés pouvaient être considérés comme des personnes bilingues.

[*Interprétation*]

entrer dans le détail, mais depuis trois ans environ, j'ai un choix beaucoup plus vaste. Je n'ai pas les chiffres exacts mais environ 80 p. 100 de ceux que nous avons engagés dans les dernières années sont bilingues. Pour changer cela complètement, ce serait très difficile. Il faudrait renvoyer 25 p. 100 du personnel.

Le président: Vous avez mentionné que le principal critère pour l'embauche d'un garde est son service militaire. Il doit être d'abord un ancien combattant?

M. Currie: C'est le critère actuel. Il doit être un ancien combattant, et si possible, un combattant qui a servi outre-mer au cours de la deuxième guerre mondiale.

Le président: Je vois. Monsieur Thomson.

M. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Monsieur le président, je me demande si une partie de ce personnel pourrait suivre des cours de langue en vertu du programme de formation linguistique. Est-ce possible?

M. Currie: Nous n'avons pas suffisamment de personnel actuellement. M. de Salaberry et moi-même avons étudié cette question de très près. Comme vous le savez, nous avons un cours général de formation linguistique pour les députés et nous croyons que ces derniers ont la priorité dans ce domaine. Nous sommes convaincus qu'il faut, autant que possible, offrir aux membres de notre personnel l'occasion d'apprendre une langue supplémentaire. Nous y songeons très sérieusement.

M. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Monsieur le président, j'aimerais moi aussi apprendre une deuxième langue ou perfectionner cette seconde langue. Malheureusement, je n'ai pas le temps de le faire actuellement. J'espère que je pourrai y consacrer plus de temps dans l'avenir.

Le président: M. Thomson, avez-vous un autre question?

M. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersely): Oui, j'ai d'autres questions mais sur un autre sujet.

Mr. Clermont: Mr. Chairman, the answers by the Sergeant-at-Arms confirm what I claimed, i.e., that over the past few years there has been some improvement in this situation. We congratulate the people responsible for this improvement, because he said that for the past three years 90 per cent of people hired could be considered as bilingual persons.

[*Text*]

Je remarque, monsieur le président, qu'il n'y a pas grand changement dans le crédit...

Le président: Vous voulez dire le crédit (S), monsieur Clermont?

M. Clermont: Oui, le crédit de la Chambre des communes. Si on se réfère à beaucoup d'autres ministères, on voit qu'il y a des augmentations. Je vois que pour les frais de voyage des députés, nous avons en 1969-1970 le même montant qu'en 1968-1969. Je parle de ces chiffres-là, monsieur le président, pour que le public soit au courant. Car, certains sont sous l'impression que nos dépenses augmentent d'une manière extraordinaire à chaque année.

Je vois pour les frais de voyage des députés pour 1969-1970, un montant prévu de 420,000 dollars. Pour 1968-1969 c'était la même chose. Pour les dépenses de téléphone, c'est le même montant en 1969-1970 qu'en 1968-1969. Pour les indemnités parlementaires des députés, au lieu d'avoir une augmentation, il y a $18,000 de moins, parce qu'il y a un député de moins. Mais je voudrais que l'on remarque que ces dépenses n'ont pas augmenté.

Le président: Il serait bon d'ajouter, monsieur Clermont, que les députés reçoivent seulement $0.07 du mille, contrairement aux fonctionnaires qui reçoivent $0.12.

M. Clermont: En parlant des fonctionnaires, monsieur le président, il est un peu difficile d'accepter le fait que dans les ministères, le fonctionnaire, qui est considéré bilingue, reçoit une prime de 7 p. 100 et que, actuellement, le fonctionnaire qui est considéré bilingue à la Chambre des communes, ne peut pas bénéficier de ce 7 p. 100. J'espère que dans un avenir assez proche le fonctionnaire attaché à la Chambre des communes pourra bénéficier, comme les fonctionnaires des différents ministères, de cette prime de 7 p. 100.

Je vais poser une dernière question, monsieur le président, afin de permettre à d'autres de poser des questions. Au crédit 20 Information, je vois une somme de 2,445,000 de dollars.

Quels frais cette somme-là couvre-t-elle? C'est sous le poste «informations» à la page 292, monsieur le président.

Dans «le détail des affectations», je vois $2,445,000. Cette somme-là, est-ce que c'est...

Mr. Small: "Information" is a new classification in the Estimates for published matter like our Debates, our Committee Proceedings, our Votes and Proceedings, our Order Papers, our Bills etc., and this has increased.

[*Interpretation*]

I note, Mr. Chairman, that there is not much change in the vote...

The Chairman: You mean vote (S), Mr. Clermont?

Mr. Clermont: Yes, the House of Commons vote. If we refer to many other Departments, we can see that there are increases. I note that travelling expenses for Members are the same for 68-69 and 69-70. I refer to these figures, Mr. Chairman, so that the public may be aware of them. Many people feel that our expenses are very much on the increase from year to year.

I see that under travelling expenses for Members for 1969-70, provision has been made for $420,000. For 1968-69, it was the same amount. Telephone expenses are the same for 68-69 and 69-70. There is $18,000 less in so far as Parliamentary indemnity is concerned because there is one Member less. But I would like you to note that these expenses have not increased.

The Chairman: Mr. Clermont, you could also note that Members are paid 7 cents per mile, while civil servants get 12 cents per mile.

Mr. Clermont: In reference to civil servants, Mr. Chairman, it is difficult to accept the fact that in the various Departments, a bilingual officer receives a 7 per cent premium, while in the House of Commons bilingual officers don't get this 7 per cent. I hope that in the near future, officers working for the House of Commons will have the same 7 per cent premium as officers in the various Departments.

I shall now ask my last question, so that my colleagues can put questions too. In Vote 20, under Information, is note the sum of $2,445,000.

What expenditures does that sum cover? Under the item "information" on page 292, Mr. Chairman, in the column "Details of Services", I see $2,445,000. Is that sum...

M. Small: L'information est une nouvelle rubrique du budget qui englobe la publication du Hansard, des comptes rendus des comités, du feuilleton, de l'Ordre du jour, des Bills, et c'est un domaine qui s'est accru.

[*Texte*]

M. Clermont: Monsieur le président, je ne parle pas de l'augmentation qui n'est que de $63,000. Mais je ne voulais que les renseignements que M. Small vient de fournir au sujet de l'information.

Le président: Vous vouliez avoir la définition du mot «information»?

M. Clermont: Oui, merci beaucoup.

The Chairman: Mr. Thomson?

Mr. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Mr. Chairman, I have several questions in different areas and the gentlemen could answer, if they would, as they come up.

First, did I understand that the dining room was under the Sergeant-at-Arms?

Lt. Col. Currie: Do you mean for the summer?

Mr. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): No, is the dining room supervised...?

Lt. Col. Currie: Yes.

Mr. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Well, first I would like to compliment you on the quality of the food there. I would like to ask you if you would care to bid on the Air Canada contract.

I have a question with reference to shortage of space. Are there any offices, any positions or functions, if you will, that are performed on Parliament Hill that could be moved out somewhere else in an effort to make more space here, without interfering?

Mr. Fraser: The whole question of space is under thorough consideration now, Mr. Thomson, one of the reasons being that there have been suggestions made that more adequate space be given by way of offices to Members. If that happens then, of course, we are in very serious trouble as far as the location of our staff is concerned. But asking whether or not things can be moved off the Hill, when you come to the Centre Block which is the main operating centre of the Parliament Buildings, we have moved from the Centre Block as much staff as we possibly can; all the personnel are over here in the West Block. The only things really left in the Centre Block are operations that are directly associated with the work of the Chamber. For instance, the whole committee structure was moved over here. But to try to take staff away from even this building would I think probably in most cases be an inconvenience to Members who, after all, work in these two buildings. It is a problem.

[*Interprétation*]

Mr. Clermont: Mr. Chairman, I am not talking about the increase which only amounts to $63,000. Mr. Small told us about information, I would like to know more about it.

The Chairman: You wanted to have the definition of the word "information"?

Mr. Clermont: Yes, thank you very much.

Le président: Monsieur Thomson?

M. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Monsieur le président, j'ai plusieurs questions à poser dans différents domaines et ces messieurs pourraient y répondre, s'ils le voulaient.

Tout d'abord, ai-je bien compris que le sergent d'armes s'occupait de la salle à manger?

M. Currie: Parlez-vous de l'été?

M. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Non. La salle à manger est-elle surveillée?

M. Currie: Oui.

M. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Je voudrais tout d'abord vous féliciter pour la qualité des repas. Est-ce que vous ne pourriez pas préparer des repas pour Air-Canada?

J'ai une question concernant le manque d'espace. Est-ce qu'il y a des bureaux, ou des postes ou des fonctions, si vous voulez, qui sont sur la Colline et qui pourraient être déplacés, sans que cela ne gêne le fonctionnement de la Chambre?

M. Fraser: La question des locaux fait l'objet d'une étude très approfondie, monsieur Thomson. Il a été suggéré que l'on donne de meilleurs bureaux aux députés. Si cela se produit, nous aurons naturellement de grandes difficultés relatives aux locaux de notre personnel. Vous nous demandez si nous pouvons faire déménager certains services? Lorsque vous venez à l'édifice central, qui est le principal immeuble du Parlement, vous remarquerez que nous avons déménagé de l'édifice central, autant d'employés que nous avons pu. Tout le personnel est maintenant rendu à l'édifice de l'ouest. Il ne nous reste, à l'édifice central, que les activités qui sont liées directement au fonctionnement de la Chambre. Tous les comités, par exemple, ont tous été installés à l'édifice de l'ouest. Si le personnel est déplacé de cet édifice, ce serait, à mon avis, très gênant pour les députés qui travaillent dans ces deux édifices. C'est un problème.

[*Text*]

The whole question of space is perhaps, as I have said several times today, our principal difficulty as far as the running of the House of Commons is concerned. It is under major consideration at the moment, and it may well be that we will just have to get into a new building or do something of that kind. But we think it is important to keep our operation integrated as much as we can so it can serve the Members as well as it can.

Mr. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): I can see the advantages of being here on the Hill. I have no argument with this. But I just wondered if there were some functions that could be moved away without making it too awkward for anyone. That is fine.

I would like to ask the Sergeant-at-Arms if he has the tunnel elevator wired into the central emergency electrical system? I got stuck in it earlier in the year, and my information was that it was going to be wired into the emergency electrical system. I would like to know if it has or not?

Lt. Col. Currie: I cannot answer whether it is completed or not, but it is in the plans. Electrical work is going on in the building, and it should be finished sometime this year; it is planned to put it into that system.

Mr. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Mr. Chairman, I just want to draw attention to the fact that I definitely think this should be

• 1035

done. There could be some people killed here. I was stuck in this, and it was not a very pleasant experience, and I would be most unhappy if anything happened to anyone.

Just one further comment in regard to the photocopy equipment. I am happy to hear that some new equipment has been installed. Frequently Members want, shall we say, 50 copies of something, which are too many to type and not enough to mimeograph, and it is very handy to be able to send down and get 25 or 50 copies of something. Until this new machine was installed, many secretaries were snarling and vice versa with the people who worked the previous machines. I would like to congratulate you on installing this new machine.

The Chairman: Mr. Gundlock?

Mr. Gundlock: Mr. Chairman, I would like to ask Mr. Fraser a question in connection with staff, particularly those who have been upgraded, shall we say, or reclassified, whose salaries have not kept pace with the reclassification. I will mention one example, and

[*Interpretation*]

Toute la question de l'espace est, peut-être, comme je l'ai dit plusieurs fois, notre problème principal en ce qui concerne le fonctionnement de la Chambre des communes. Nous étudions cette question de très près et il est possible que nous devions construire un nouvel édifice ou quelque chose du genre. Nous jugeons important d'avoir tout notre personnel intégré autant que possible, afin de servir les députés du mieux qu'ils peuvent.

M. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Je vois les avantages qui existent à être sur la Colline. Je ne m'y oppose pas, mais je me demande s'il n'y aurait pas quelques postes qui pourraient être déménagés sans que ce soit trop gênant pour qui que ce soit. Voilà pour cette question.

J'aimerais poser une question au sergent d'armes. Est-ce que l'ascenseur du tunnel est rattaché au système central électrique d'urgence? Au début de l'année, j'ai été pris dans l'ascenseur et d'après les renseignements qu'on m'a fournis, on était sensé le relier au système électrique d'urgence. Est-ce que cela est fait?

M. Currie: Je ne sais pas si le travail est terminé, mais cela fait partie de nos projets. Le travail relatif à l'électricité a commencé dans l'édifice et il devrait être complété cette année. On prévoit de le relier à ce réseau.

M. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Monsieur le président, je veux seulement souligner l'importance de ce travail. Des gens peuvent être tués. J'ai été pris dans l'ascenseur et je vous assure que ce ne fut pas une expérience agréable et je serais très désolé que la même chose arrive à quelqu'un d'autre. Un autre commentaire au sujet du matériel de photocopie. Je suis heureux d'entendre dire qu'on a installé un nouvel équipement parce qu'il arrive souvent que les députés veulent cinquante copies d'une chose, ce qui représente trop de copies à dactylographier et trop peu pour la miméographie, et il est très pratique d'envoyer un document et d'en recevoir 25 ou 50 copies. Avant que la machine soit installée, plusieurs secrétaires étaient hargneuses envers les personnes qui avaient installé la machine précédente. Je voudrais vous féliciter pour avoir installé cette nouvelle machine.

Le président: Monsieur Gundlock.

M. Gundlock: Monsieur le président, j'aimerais poser une question à monsieur Fraser au sujet du personnel, et particulièrement des employés dont le classement a été élevé, ou qui ont été reclassés et dont le traitement ne correspond pas encore au nouveau classement.

[*Texte*]

that is the Whip's offices where overtime has not been paid, according to my understanding, for two years now. I wonder how much this applies to other members of staff, say, in the same category.

Mr. Fraser: This is a matter, sir, that comes under Mr. de Salaberry's jurisdiction, but I would say to you generally that what we do is this: we make an assessment each year of the pay scales of employees of the House of Commons, and we make a recommendation to the Commissioners of Internal Economy, and alterations in pay are generally made effective as of July 1 in any calendar year. Now, under Mr. de Salaberry's direction and Mr. St. Jacques of our staff, very close touch is kept with what are felt to be comparable positions in the Public Service and in private industry. Our increases in salary, as far as we are able to have them do so, are matched with the prevailing increases in what we think to be comparable positions in both the Public Service and private industry.

I am interested to hear about the situation in the Whip's offices. We will certainly have a look at it and, of course, any particular cases that are of interest to Members we certainly would look into at any time.

Mr. de Salaberry: I might say, sir, that we have had requests from the Whip's offices for the payment of overtime. This matter is being costed in order to prepare a submission to the Commissioners. It is not only in the Whip's offices, it is all the staff of the House of Commons who have time owing, which I hope will be paid sometime soon.

Mr. Gundlock: Why, if I may ask, would this run over a two-year period?

Mr. de Salaberry: Time is computed here on a calendar year, and the overtime that has not been paid was in 1967. I think it was thought that during the past year time off could be given in lieu of overtime, with the long recess that we had between the dissolution of the House and the new Parliament. There has been a delay this year, and I hope it will be attended to very shortly.

The Chairman: Thank you. Are there any other questions regarding the estimates of the House of Commons?

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): I have a supplementary question.

[*Interprétation*]

Je songe à un exemple, le bureau du whip où le temps supplémentaire n'a pas encore été payé, si j'ai bien compris, depuis deux ans. Je me demande dans quelle mesure la même situation s'applique aux autres membres du personnel de la même catégorie disons?

M. Fraser: Cette question relève de monsieur de Salaberry mais je vous dirais ce que nous faisons d'habitude: nous évaluons chaque année les échelles de salaire des employés de la Chambre des communes, nous présentons une recommandation au commissaire de la régie intérieure, et tous les changements de traitement entrent habituellement en vigueur le 1er juillet de l'année financière. Sous la direction de monsieur de Salaberry et de monsieur Saint-Jacques, nous étudions de très près les échelles de salaires comparables de la Fonction publique et de l'entreprise privée. Les augmentations de salaire, si nous sommes capables de les obtenir, concordent avec les augmentations pour les pertes qui sont comparables dans la Fonction publique et l'industrie privée est la situation qui existe pour les bureaux du «Whip». Nous les examinerons sûrement et les cas qui intéressent les députés seront certainement étudiés très bientôt.

M. de Salaberry: Je dois dire, monsieur, que nous avons reçu des demandes de la part des bureaux du «Whip» pour le paiement du surtemps. Nous sommes en train d'évaluer la question et de préparer une proposition que nous présenterons aux commissaires. Il n'y a pas seulement que les bureaux du «Whip» mais aussi tous les membres du personnel de la Chambre des communes qui, je l'espère, recevront bientôt l'argent qui leur revient.

M. Gundlock: Pourquoi faut-il deux ans?

M. de Salaberry: La période de temps est déterminée à partir de l'année financière et le temps supplémentaire qui n'a pas été payé a été accumulée en 1967. Je crois que l'on pensait que pour l'année dernière, au lieu du temps supplémentaire, on accorderait des congés, pendant la longue période de l'intersession entre la dissolution de la Chambre et la reprise du Parlement. Il y a eu un déai cette année et j'espère qu'on y remédiera très bientôt.

Le président: Merci. Y a-t-il d'autres questions au sujet des prévisions budgétaires pour la Chambre des communes?

M. Lambert (Edmonton-Ouest): J'ai une autre question.

[*Text*]

The Chairman: Mr. Lambert?

M. Lambert (Edmonton-Ouest): Monsieur de Salaberry, puisqu'en principe vous acceptiez et puis que pendant des années la pratique a été de payer ce personnel (un nombre assez restreint) pour le temps supplémentaire, quelle est la raison de ce changement de principe, et de ce retard? Il me semble qu'une question qui découle de leurs services de l'année 1967 devrait être résolue maintenant.

M. de Salaberry: Le problème remonterait d'abord au mois de décembre 1967, n'est-ce pas monsieur Lambert.

M. Lambert (Edmonton-Ouest): Oui il y a 15 mois de cela.

M. de Salaberry: Absolument. Maintenant, en 1968, la Chambre n'a pas siégé longtemps. Du printemps dernier jusqu'en septembre nous croyons que les surveillants ont pu donner une compensation en vacances pour le temps supplémentaire où ils ont travaillé en 1967.

M. Lambert (Edmonton-Ouest): Monsieur de Salaberry, ne croyez-vous pas que la période est trop longue entre le temps où le travail supplémentaire est fait et les congés qu'on accorde, soit des mois et que ce n'est pas juste? Si vous prévoyez que certains employés devront faire du temps supplémentaire, qu'on leur accorde des congés dans un proche avenir, et que ce soit sur une base régulière, de manière à ne pas les forcer à calculer tout le temps supplémentaire fait pendant un an ou plus, et à prendre congé des mois plus tard. Il me semble qu'il doit y avoir une meilleure manière de procéder que celle-là.

M. de Salaberry: J'accepte votre point de vue, monsieur Lambert. Par contre il y a un nombre assez considérable d'employés de la Chambre dont les fonctions disparaissent presque quand la Chambre ne siège pas. L'an dernier, par exemple, cela voulait dire des vacances de 4 ou 5 mois, pour certains.

M. Lambert (Edmonton-Ouest): Mais ils n'étaient pas à leur tâche principale. Mais il y a certains bureaux qui doivent fonctionner quand même.

M. de Salaberry: Absolument.

M. Lambert (Edmonton-Ouest): Surtout dans le cas des bureaux des «whip», il doit y avoir là continuellement un greffier, un adjoint, parce que des demandes viennent constamment d'ici et là. Ce n'est pas un emploi sessionnel. Alors, il me semble qu'il s'impose que ce problème soit réglé d'ici très

[*Interpretation*]

Le président: Monsieur Lambert.

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): Mr. de Salaberry, since it was accepted in principle and as it has been the practice for several years to pay staff (a fairly limited number) for overtime, why did you change the principle and why is there a delay? It seems to me that a question which devolves from their services in 1967 should be solved now.

Mr. de Salaberry: The problem goes back to December 1967, isn't that so, Mr. Lambert?

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): Yes, that was 15 months ago.

Mr. de Salaberry: Right. Now, in 1968, the House did not sit long. Between last spring and September, we believe that the supervisors gave a holiday as compensation to those people who had overtime in 1967.

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): Mr. de Salaberry, do you not think that the period between the time when the overtime is worked and the holidays are granted is too long, since it amounts to severaly months, and that this is not fair? If you expect that certain employees will be doing overtime, they should have time off shortly thereafter, and this should be on a regular basis so that they won't be forced to figure out their overtime over a period of one year or more and only be able to take their holidays several months later. It seems to me there is a better way of proceeding than that.

Mr. de Salaberry: That is true, Mr. Lambert. But on the other hand, there are a great many staff members at the House of Commons whose duties virtually disappear when the House is not in session. Last year, for instance, this meant that there were four or five months holidays for a good many of the staff members.

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): They were not on full time service, but there are certain offices that must be open all the same.

Mr. de Salaberry: Definitely.

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): This is true in the case of the whip's offices; there must be a clerk there at all times, an assistant clerk, because there are queries coming in continually from here and there. It is not just a sessional type of duty, and it seems to me that this issue should certainly be settled

[*Texte*]

peu de temps, parce que cela n'affecte pas qu'un parti, mais, je pense, tous les partis.

M. de Salaberry: J'accepte votre remarque.

Le président: Monsieur Clermont.

M. Clermont: Monsieur le président, j'appuie la suggestion de M. Lambert. Je voudrais seulement faire le commentaire suivant: je félicite et remercie le personnel des comités qui nous facilite notre travail dans les comités-là, parce qu'ils nous aident beaucoup.

Le président: Je suis bien d'accord avec vous. Autres questions concernant les crédits 10-15 et 20? Monsieur Lambert?

M. Lambert (Edmonton-Ouest): J'ai une question au sujet du crédit 10 monsieur le président, et peut-être M. Fraser pourra-t-il répondre. Je lis au Crédit 10:

> Orateur de la Chambre des communes— Indemnité de logement (maison).

Le montant est encore de 3000 dollars par an.

Or il me semble que, vu la hausse extraordinaire des loyers, des résidences convenables, c'est un montant dérisoire. Je peux bien vous dire qu'en 1962-1963, l'Orateur devait débourser de sa propre poche, pour combler la maigreur de cette allocation. Et je suggérerais très sérieusement que cela soit reconsidéré. Après tout, il n'y a pas de résidence pour l'Orateur on lui donne une allocation. Et si vous pouvez trouver aujourd'hui quelque chose qui serait convenable pour le président et sa famille, pour 250 dollars par mois, je vous assure que j'aimerais en entendre parler. Ces maison se situent plutôt dans la région de 350 ou 400 dollars par mois, et même là, on n'a pas un château non plus.

Le président: D'accord. Messieurs, nous vous remercions de votre présence. Il est malheureux qu'il n'y ait pas quorum puisque nous ne pouvons pas adopter les crédits 10, 15 et 20 que nous ferons à une séance ultérieure. Nous allons maintenant continuer avec d'autres témoins. Merci, monsieur Fraser.

Gentlemen, we have as witnesses for the Library of Parliament Mr. Eric Spicer who is the Parliamentary Librarian; Miss A. P. H. Hardisty, the assitant to Mr. Spicer, and Mr. Dudley Fraser, who is in charge of the finance department of the Library.

Mr. Clermont: Does Mr. Spicer have an opening statement?

[*Interprétation*]

within a very brief period of time because it does not just affect one party, but, I think it affects all parties.

Mr. de Salaberry: I agree with your remark.

The Chairman: Mr. Clermont.

Mr. Clermont: Mr. Chairman, I second Mr. Lambert's suggestion, and I want to make the following comment. I congratulate and thank the staff of the committees which greatly helps our work in those committees. They are very helpful to us.

The Chairman: I fully agree with you. Are there any other questions concerning votes 10, 15 and 20? Mr. Lambert?

Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West): I have a question concerning vote 10 to which Mr. Fraser may perhaps be able to give a reply. In vote 10, under:

> The Speaker of the House of Commons— Allowance in lieu of residence.

the amount is still $3,000 a year.

Now, it seems to me that in view of the extraordinary increase in rents for any suitable residence, this becomes a ridiculous allowance. I might even say that in 1962-63 the Speaker had to spend money out of his own pocket to make up for this allowance. I seriously think that this should be examined again. After all, there is not a residence for the Speaker; we give him an allowance. And if, nowadays, you can find something that would be suitable for our Speaker and his family, at $250 a month, I would certainly like to hear about it. The rent for these houses is around $350 or $400 per month, and even at that it will not be a castle either.

The Chairman: All right. Gentlemen, thank you very much for your appearance before the Committee. It is unfortunate there is no quorum, so we cannot carry votes 10, 15 and 20. We will do this at another hearing. Thank you, Mr. Fraser.

Maintenant, messieurs, les témoins pour la Bibliothèque du Parlement sont monsieur Eric Spicer, bibliothécaire parlementaire, mademoiselle A. P. H. Hardisty, adjointe de monsieur Spicer et monsieur Dudley Fraser qui s'occupe de la section des finances de la bibliothèque.

M. Clermont: Monsieur Spicer commencera-t-il par un exposé?

[*Text*]

Mr. Eric Spicer (Parliamentary Librarian): Yes, I think we are in the same position as the House of Commons. We have never been called before a Parliamentary committee for this purpose until now, so perhaps I should tell you something about our organization.

The Library of Parliament is a separate organization. I am responsible directly to the Speaker of the Senate and to the Speaker of the House of Commons. We have our own Library of Parliament Act and in one sense we are dependent of the House of Commons and the Senate. We are divided into three branches. There is the cataloguing branch which also orders books and then prepares them for use; there is the reference branch which provides factual information on request to members and there is the research branch which prepares written papers for members and, of course, there is the administrative unit. Very briefly that gives you our organization.

Since the matter of space came up, I want to say that space is our major problem. May I anticipate some of your questions, perhaps? Quite often we are asked the difference between the Library of Parliament and the National Library. The National Library serves the nation; we serve parliamentarians directly and the nation indirectly. We gave half of our book collection, roughly 300,000 volumes, to the National Library and this is the bulk of their books collection at the present time.

In addition to the books we have in the main library, we have a storage area out at Tunney's Pasture, so in that sense we are decentralized. When the new research branch was established in 1965 we were unable to house all the officers and their assistants in the library building and therefore we now have quarters in 10 Metcalfe treet and all the research branch officers, with the exception of the Director. Mr. Laundy and his secretary, are off the Hill.

This certainly is not ideal. In fact, we feel very strongly that they should be closer, but this is the closest we could get, and we only got in there because I was able to convince the Minister personnally that the space that his departmental officers were offering was not satisfactory from the parliamentary point of view.

• 1050

Le président: Monsieur Clermont.

[*Interpretation*]

M. Spicer: Oui. Je crois que nous nous trouvons dans la même situation qu'à la Chambre des communes. Nous n'avons jamais témoigné devant un comité parlementaire. Je vous dirai quelques mots au sujet de notre organisation.

La Bibliothèque du Parlement constitue un organisme distinct. Le bibliothécaire parlementaire relève directement de l'Orateur de la Chambre et du Président du Sénat. Nous jouissons d'une loi séparée qui régit la bibliothèque du Parlement et, d'une certaine manière, nous sommes indépendants de la Chambre des communes et du Sénat. La Bibliothèque est composée de trois directions: la direction du catalogage, qui commande les livres et les prépare pour la diffusion, la direction des références qui fournit des renseignements à la suite des demandes des députés et la direction de la recherche qui prépare des mémoires pour les députés et naturellement, la section administrative. Voilà brièvement l'organigramme de la Bibliothèque.

Vu que la question de l'espace a été soulevée, j'aimerais vous dire que c'est là notre problème principal. Pourrais-je anticiper sur quelques-unes de vos questions? On nous interroge souvent sur la différence qui peut exister entre la Bibliothèque parlementaire et la Bibliothèque nationale. La Bibliothèque nationale sert la population tandis que la Bibliothèque parlementaire sert directement les parlementaires et indirectement le pays. Nous avons donc la moitié de notre collection, soit à peu près 300 mille volumes à la Bibliothèque nationale et c'est le gros de leur collection à l'heure actuelle. En plus des livres que nous avons dans la bibliothèque principale, il y en a qui sont à l'entrepôt de Tunney's Pasture. Il y a donc décentralisation. Lorsque l'on a créé la nouvelle direction de la recherche en 1965, nous n'avons pu trouver de l'espace pour tous les fonctionnaires et leurs adjoints dans l'immeuble de la bibliothèque. C'est pourquoi, il y a maintenant des bureaux à 10, rue Metcalfe, et toute la direction de la recherche, sauf le directeur, monsieur Landry et son secrétaire, se trouve dans des locaux ailleurs que sur la Colline.

Cela n'est pas une situation idéale. Nous croyons fermement que ces employés devraient être plus près mais c'est l'endroit le plus rapproché que nous ayons pu trouver. Nous n'avons pu obtenir ces locaux que parce que j'ai pu convaincre personnellement le ministre que les locaux que ses fonctionnaires nous offraient n'étaient pas satisfaisants, sur le plan parlementaire.

The Chairman: Mr. Clermont.

[*Texte*]

M. Clermont: Merci, monsieur le président. Vous allez m'excuser car je devrai m'absenter après mes commentaires. Je suis membre d'un autre comité qui va siéger à 11h., mais je profite de l'occasion de l'étude des crédits de la Bibliothèque du Parlement pour remercier et féliciter le personnel de la Bibliothèque. A différentes occasions j'ai eu recours à leurs services et le rendement que j'en ai reçu est excellent. Alors je profite de cette occasion pour les remercier et les féliciter. La seule chose que je regrette c'est qu'ils ne sont pas assez nombreux, alors, nous devons peut-être attendre un peu plus loogtemps pour certains documents, mais j'estime qu'avec le personnel dont ils disposent, ils font un travail formidable.

Le président: Merci, monsieur Clermont. Monsieur Gundlock.

Mr. Gundlock: Mr. Chairman, may I say, briefly, how much I, as a member for some years, appreciate the services of the Library. They have been most invaluable. I think more so possibly than any other arrangement we could make.

While I am speaking, Mr. Chairman, may I ask whether there are certain people who are allowed, and certain people who are not allowed, to go into what are commonly referred to, I think, as the "stacks"? Is that true?

Mr. Spicer: Yes, that is correct, sir.

Mr. Gundlock: Could you give us a short outline of those who are, and those who are not, allowed, and why?

Mr. Spicer: The regulations I inherited restricted "stack" use to Members of Parliament, Senators and members of the Press Gallery. I think that is correct.

I can assure you, this makes very good sense. Effective today we have an establishment of 88 people. Because the staff use a ratio—and it is higher in our Library than in any other—you should be able to get direct service. In other words, it is not like a public library where it is almost a supermarket operation and you have to help yourself from the shelves. If you have something specific in mind it is far better to deal with our staff. Then you get what you want. If you want to browse, that is fine.

The problem of making the "stack" any more accessible would be that we would have even more difficulty in finding the books or the information that you want when you want it. Mr. Clermont has already mentioned that there has been some delay.

[*Interprétation*]

Mr. Clermont: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I am sorry, but I shall have to leave right after my comments. I am a member of another committee which sits at 11 o'clock, but I want to take advantage of the opportunity offered while examining the Library of Parliament Estimates to congratulate the staff of the Library, because on the different occasions I had to use the library services I found them to be excellent. I take advantage of this opportunity to thank them and to congratulate them. The only thing I regret is that there are not enough of them, and so, we sometimes may have to wait a little longer for certain documents, but it is my opinion that, with the personnel they have at their disposal, they are doing a wonderful job.

The Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Clermont. Mr. Gundlock?

M. Gundlock: Je voudrais dire très brièvement combien, à titre de député qui est ici depuis des années j'apprécie le service de la Bibliothèque du Parlement. Les services sont hors prix. Probablement les services sont les meilleurs que nous pourrions obtenir.

Pendant que je prends la parole, je voudrais demander pourquoi certaines personnes ont l'autorisation d'entrer dans ce qu'on appelle la section des étagères, alors que d'autres ne l'ont pas? Est-ce vrai?

M. Spicer: Oui, c'est vrai.

M. Gundlock: Pourriez-vous nous décrire les critères d'admission et les raisons pour ces critères?

M. Spicer: Les règlements veulent que ce ne soient que les députés, les sénateurs et les membres de la tribune de la presse qui y aient accès. C'est une disposition très sensée.

A l'heure actuelle, nous avons un personnel de 88 personnes. Mais puisque le personnel est établi d'après un pourcentage, et il est plus élevé qu'ailleurs, vous devriez obtenir un service immédiat. Autrement dit, notre bibliothèque ne ressemble pas aux bibliothèques publiques où les gens peuvent aller se choisir des livres. Si vous avez quelque chose de précis à l'esprit, il est beaucoup mieux de demander à un membre du personnel. Alors vous obtenez ce que vous voulez. Si vous voulez consulter les livres, ça va.

Si on ouvre l'accès à plus de gens, il serait plus difficile de trouver les livres ou les renseignements dont vous avez besoin, lorsque vous les voulez. M. Clermont a déjà mentionné le fait qu'il y a des retards.

[*Text*]

We find that people who go down there are apt to take books off the shelf. That is presumably why they go down. They look at them and then, because they want to be helpful, they try to put them back on the shelves. This is where we get into trouble. They normally do not understand the classification system and they do not put the books back correctly. If a book is not on the shelves correctly it is lost. You may just as well not have it in the library, because we have to search the whole place to find it. Therefore, the fewer people who go into the "stacks" the happier we are.

There is another matter that I think you should know of. Even in this Library—your Library—books have disappeared. They are less apt to disappear if strangers are not wandering through the "stacks". There is the security aspect and the service aspect. The fewer people who go down there the better your service. We have also had the disquieting experience of finding that mutilation takes place. This is a very serious thing, and it is very difficult for me to understand.

Mr. Gundlock: You mean people take pages and pictures?

Mr. Spicer: That is correct. As I say, it is very difficult for me to understand, this, because we have copying facilities, too. We would much rather copy pages for you, or for anyone, than to have mutilation.

One of the worst examples we have had of this—and some of you may recall it—was during the debate on the abolition of capital punishment. We have three sets of bound *Hansards*, including one in half-leather binding. We found that all three *Hansards* dealing with this particular problem had been mutilated. That would mean, say, 20 pages torn out, and then another 10 pages. We could have copied those pages.

One can only assume that the people who took them out did so not to use them themselves but to deny others the use of them. This does create a problem. I do not know who did it, but I wish I did. I would like to be in a position to act against the individual, but I am not. This is certainly one of the very serious reasons for our not allowing people to use the "stacks".

• 1055

We do occasionally make an exception. We have a very good library and very long runs of certain periodicals and law reports and we may, for example, allow a professor to spend some times in the "stacks". It is more effective to put him down there, where there is a

[*Interpretation*]

Nous avons constaté que les gens qui vont dans les étagères, prennent des livres, les consultent puis ensuite ils tentent de les remettre sur les étagères. Voilà d'où découle le problème car les gens ne comprennent pas le système de classement et ne remettent pas les livres à leur place. Si le livre n'est pas remis à sa place, il est perdu. Aussi bien ne pas l'avoir dans la bibliothèque, car il nous faut chercher partout pour trouver le volume. Donc, plus restreint sera le nombre de gens qui iront dans les étagères, plus efficace sera notre travail.

Il y a une autre question que vous devriez connaître. Même dans votre bibliothèque, les livres disparaissent. Il y a moins de chance que les livres disparaissent si les étrangers n'ont pas accès aux étagères. Il y a l'aspect de sécurité des livres et l'aspect des services fournis. Le moins de personnes qui y vont, meilleur est le service. Nous avons constaté que souvent des livres sont abîmés. C'est un problème très grave, qu'il m'est très difficile de comprendre.

M. Gundlock: Vous voulez dire que des gens enlèvent des pages et des images?

M. Spicer: C'est exact et je ne comprends pas cela, car nous avons des appareils de photocopie. Nous préférons copier la page que de voir le livre endommagé.

Un des pires exemples de cette situation, certains s'en rappelleront peut-être, a eu lieu pendant le débat sur l'abolition de la peine de mort, nous avions trois volumes reliés de Hansard, dont un à demi relié en cuir. Nous avons constaté que les trois Hansard où la question avait été discutée avait été endommagés. Cela veut dire qu'on avait déchiré vingt pages, puis un autre dix pages. Nous aurions pu copier ces pages.

On ne peut que conclure que les gens qui avaient déchiré les pages avaient retiré ces pages afin que d'autres gens ne puissent pas les consulter. Cela crée le problème. Je ne sais pas qui l'a fait, mais je voudrais savoir qui est le responsable. Je voudrais prendre des mesures contre la personne responsable, mais je ne le peux pas. Voilà une des principales raisons qui expliquent l'inaccessibilité aux étagères.

Nous faisons quelquefois une exception. Nous avons une excellente bibliothèque et nous avons de longues séries de certains périodiques et de rapports des sociétés du barreau et souvent, par exemple, nous permettons à un professeur d'université d'examiner

[*Texte*]

long run of documents, than to have him in the Reading Room and carry these things up and then bring them back. But normally you are better served the fewer outsiders we have in the "stacks".

Mr. Gundlock: Mr. Chairman, I have one further comment. I was about to suggest that additional people might use them, such as certain members of our committees, or the Clerk, but after listening to what Mr. Spicer has just told me it seems to me that we had better tighten up, because it is a shame to by-pass a service that could probably give information to you quicker than you could find it for yourself, in most cases. And certainly when it comes to mutilating valuable books, I would now recommend, Mr. Chairman, the reverse, that we should look at the possibilities of tightening this up.

The Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Gundlock. Mr. Perrault?

Mr. Perrault: Mr. Chairman, I would like to echo Mr. Clermont's works of high regard for the Library. I think they perform a superb function for the Members of Parliament.

Mr. Spicer mentioned that there was a space shortage, and he brought up other difficulties.

If the budget appropriation were greater how should this money be directed? What do you think is the most important priority facing those who deal with this responsibility? What can we do about the space problem, for example?

Mr. Spicer: We do have the problem here of which comes first—the chicken or the egg? Do we get the space before we get the staff, or do we get the staff and then the space? I do not really know the answer to this particular problem. I have, though, made some definite recommendations in my brief to the Senate Committee on Science Policy. One of the questions they asked was: Tell us the things that are most hampering your effective operation? The chief thing is lack of space. It is not a question of space, *per se*. It must, in my opinion, be space on or near Parliament Hill. I have been offered space, but it is not near enough.

It seems to me—and, of course, I do not make the decisions on this—that in providing space for Parliament someone has to make a tough decision. For example, there is the block between O'Connor and Metcalfe, south of Wellington. Should that really be left to private industry, or should the Victoria Building perhaps be taken over by the govern-

[*Interprétation*]

toute une série de documents dans les étagères plutôt que d'apporter tous les documents dans la salle de lecture et les rapporter. Mais d'habitude nous ne permettons pas l'accès aux étagères car meilleur est le service.

M. Gundlock: Un autre commentaire monsieur le président. J'allais proposer un usage plus libéral de la Bibliothèque, comme par exemple, pour les membres de nos comités, ou le secrétaire, mais après avoir écouté ce que M. Spicer a dit, il me semble que nous devrions plutôt imposer plus de mesures de sécurité parce qu'il me semble être une honte d'ignorer un service lorsque ce service vous trouve le renseignement ou les livres plus vite que nous ne les trouveriez vous-mêmes. Maintenant que j'entends dire que des livres sont endommagés, il me semble qu'on devrait peut-être interdire l'accès à ces livres avec plus de sévérité.

Le président: Merci, monsieur Gundlock. Monsieur Perrault.

M. Perrault: Je voudrais me faire l'écho de M. Clermont lorsqu'il a fait l'éloge de la Bibliothèque du Parlement. Les députés sont servis de façon superbe. M. Spicer a dit qu'il y avait pénurie d'espace et a mentionné d'autres problèmes.

Si les crédits étaient plus élevés, comment dépenseriez-vous ces augmentations de crédits. Quels sont les besoins les plus urgents? Qu'est-ce que nous pouvons faire pour résoudre le problème de pénurie d'espace, par exemple?

M. Spicer: Il y a un problème dans ce domaine. C'est comme la question de qui vient en premier, l'œuf ou la poule? Est-ce qu'il nous faut l'espace avant le personnel, ou le personnel avant l'espace? Je ne sais pas.

J'ai soumis, cependant, des recommandations particulières dans mon mémoire au Comité du Sénat sur la politique scientifique. Une des questions avait été: Quels sont les principaux obstacles à l'efficacité de vos travaux. Et la réponse a été: Pénurie d'espace. Il ne s'agit pas tout simplement d'espace, mais il faut que l'espace se trouve près de ou sur la Colline parlementaire. On m'a offert des locaux, mais ils ne sont pas assez près.

Ce n'est pas moi qui prend les décisions, mais il me semble que lorsqu'il s'agit de fournir des locaux pour les services parlementaires, la décision est difficile. Par exemple, il y a un pâté entre O'Connor et Metcalfe, au sud de Wellington. Est-ce qu'on devrait laisser tout ce pâté d'édifices à l'entreprise privée ou est-ce que le gouvernement ne devrait pas

[*Text*]

ment? Does it make sense to have certain commercial operations there when Parliament itself is hampered? I can ask the questions, and can give what I think are the answers but I cannot make a decision to act.

In other words, it is not just the Library. I think we all know that Parliament is crippled by lack of space. The only way we are going to get the space we want is to build especially for Parliament. That is my opinion.

There is the parking space where the old Supreme Court Building used to stand, and there is the other parking space just west of the West Block. That could be cleared away and a building could be put there. I do not think there is any doubt about the possibility of that. It is question of whether or not this is what people want do do.

The space problem is really in two parts: there is the short-term aspect. In other words, if you are going to build a building it is going to take three to five years before you get your building up. What are you going to do in the meantime? They need more space for committees and we need more space to serve the committees, too. As a temporary measure it seems to me that the Victoria Building would be adequate.

Another thing is, as I am sure you have all noticed, that a number of sales are going on on the Mall. A private developer, I understand, has assembled enough land there to build a building. Now that he has done all the hard work it would seem to me that it would be a good idea for someone to make a decision to buy that space from him and put up a proper building for Parliament rather than let this very farsighted man, whoever he is—and that I do not know—go ahead and build a building and then rent the space from him. But I am getting a bit off the library.

Mr. Perrault: This is all very relevant, I think.

Mr. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Mr. Chairman, I too would like to say how much I appreciate the work of the library. I would like to ask a question in reference to the research department. I have had one brief prepared and two more are under preparation. I can see where I am going to want to use this further. I wonder if this might not be one area that could be expanded a little. I am asking a question about this because if you have to wait two to three weeks, and particularly a third week, it means that you must be aware of your problems quite a long time in advance. Is this an area that is expanding and

[*Interpretation*]

prendre l'édifice Victoria? Est-ce qu'on devrait y permettre des entreprises commerciales quand les travaux du Parlement sont entravés par le manque de locaux? Je peux poser les questions et proposer des réponses, mais ce n'est pas à moi de prendre les décisions.

Autrement dit, il ne s'agit pas seulement de la Bibliothèque. Le Parlement lui-même souffre du manque de locaux. La seule manière d'obtenir des locaux c'est de construire un édifice qui s'occupera des services parlementaires. C'est mon avis.

Il y a le stationnement où était autrefois la Cour suprême, et il y a celui juste à l'ouest de l'édifice. On pourrait y construire un édifice. Je ne pense pas qu'il y ait de doute au sujet de la possibilité de la chose. C'est une question de savoir si c'est ce que les gens veulent.

On peut diviser la question de locaux en deux rubriques: Il y a l'aspect à court terme. Si vous construisez un édifice, il vous faut de trois à cinq ans pour le construire. Que faites-vous entre-temps. Il nous faut plus d'espace pour les comités, et pour servir les comités. Comme mesure temporaire, il me semble que l'édifice Victoria serait suffisant.

Aussi, certainement vous avez tous remarqué qu'il y a énormément de ventes sur le Mail. Si je comprends bien, un entrepreneur a acquis assez de terrains là pour construire un édifice. Puisque le travail difficile est terminé, il me semble que ce serait sage d'acheter ce terrain et d'y ériger un édifice qui servirait le Parlement plutôt que de laisser cette personne très prévoyante construire l'édifice et ensuite louer des locaux dans l'édifice. Je m'éloigne cependant de notre sujet.

M. Perrault: Je pense que c'est très pertinent.

M. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Monsieur le président, je veux également exprimer mes éloges du travail de la Bibliothèque parlementaire, et poser une question au sujet de la section de recherches. J'y ai fait préparer un mémoire et on m'en prépare deux autres, et je constate que j'aurai encore besoin d'avoir recours à ces services. Est-ce qu'il ne pourrait pas y avoir une expansion de cette division? S'il vous faut attendre de deux à trois semaines pour votre mémoire, et surtout une troisième semaine, cela veut dire qu'il vous faut prévoir le problème plusieurs semaines à l'avance. Est-ce une division qui

[*Texte*]

are the members using it, or is it just a short term problem that you have to wait so long?

Mr. Spicer: There is an over-all policy to expand the research branch until there are 35 research officers plus staff, but I really have no place to put extra research officers. I have been offered space but it is simply too far away. A Department of Publics Works officer called me and said, "We have some good space for you, it is air conditioned and it is nice". I said, "We do not really care what space we work in provided it is close enough to the Hill for us to give effective service". I believe the only staff we can move there would be the research staff and we would cut the effectiveness of that staff by 10 to 15 per cent. This is a rough estimate. We have this goal of 35 people and we are slowly working towards that as we can find the space to put them in.

As far as anticipating your problem is concerned, this is something that one can do to a certain extent, and I would like to invite all members to anticipate this during the recess. We know generally what the government is going to come up with and if you want to have a private member's bill or speak on a certain subject, this is something that I feel in a general way the members do know in advance. If they could anticipate some of these things during the recess when we do not have the same pressure on us, then the papers could be better prepared and you would come back after the recess to find a number of papers ready for you. This is one way. There is no doubt about it that we could do a better job if we had more people. We could get the work out faster and we could probably do it in greater depth if we had adequate space to put these people. I would be delighted to add staff if I had a place to put them.

Mr. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): I am not being critical, really, when I say this, but I am a new member and these things have come on me more quickly than I had anticipated and I hope in the future I can give notice further in advance. At the same time I am suggesting that in view of this service I am going to want to expand my use of this particular branch. In effect, some of it is executive assistant type work and to be an effective Member of Parliament even, shall we say, in two or three areas there is so much material that you have to go through and if someone else can, if you will, make a summary of this material it is certainly a great saving in time and energy on the part

[*Interprétation*]

s'étend et que les députés utilisent, ou n'est-ce qu'un problème à court terme que nous devions attendre si longtemps?

M. Spicer: Il y a une politique générale qui voudrait que l'on accroisse le service de recherche jusqu'à ce qu'il y ait 35 recherchistes avec leur personnel, mais je n'ai vraiment pas de locaux pour d'autres recherchistes. On m'a offert des locaux, mais ils sont trop éloignés. Un fonctionnaire des Travaux publics m'a appelé et m'a dit: «Nous avons de bons locaux pour vous avec air climatisé et c'est beau». Je leur ai répondu: «Le genre de locaux importe peu pourvu qu'ils soient près de la Colline parlementaire pour nous permettre d'assurer un service efficace». Le seul personnel que nous pourrions envoyer là, ce sont les recherchistes et nous réduirions le rendement de ce personnel de 10 à 15 p. 100. Ce n'est qu'une estimation grossière. Nous visons ce but de 35 postes, mais il nous faut des locaux pour qu'ils puissent travailler.

En ce qui a trait à anticiper votre problème, on peut prévoir jusqu'à un certain point et j'inviterais tous les députés à essayer d'évaluer cela pendant leur congé. En général, nous savons quelles seront les demandes du gouvernement et si un député veut prendre la parole au sujet d'un bill privé, ou parler d'un certain sujet, je crois qu'en général, il peut le prévoir. S'ils pouvaient préparer quelques-uns de ces mémoires pendant le congé, lorsqu'il y a moins de pression d'exercée sur eux, les documents seraient mieux préparés, et, lorsqu'ils reviendraient de leur congé, un certain nombre de documents seraient prêts pour eux. C'est un moyen. Il n'y a pas de doute que nous accomplirions un meilleur travail avec plus de personnel. Nous pourrions terminer les travaux plus vite et les approfondir davantage si nous avions des locaux convenables où placer ces gens. J'aimerais beaucoup ajouter du personnel, si j'avais des locaux pour les installer.

M. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Je ne vous critique pas, vraiment, lorsque je dis ceci, mais je suis un nouveau député et ces choses me sont arrivées plus vite que je ne m'y attendais. J'espère que je pourrai vous donner avis plus à l'avance à l'avenir. Mais, il me semble que je vais vouloir me servir plus de cette division. De fait, cette division accompli le travail d'un adjoint exécutif et pour être un député efficace, même si ce n'est que dans deux ou trois domaines, il vous faut examiner tant de documentation que, si quelqu'un peut vous en préparer le résumé, cela vous épargne énormément de temps et d'énergie. Et, nous améliorerons nos services à titre de députés. En ce qui me concerne, rien

[*Text*]

of the member. I think this makes us better members and you probably could not do anything, really, as far as I am concerned that would be of more advantage to me than to make a summary of some of this material, quote sources, and so on.

• 1105

Mr. Spicer: This provides me with ammunition to push ahead, and I thank you for your comments.

Mr. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): This is certainly one area that I would like to use more. I can see where I will have a use for it, I hope I will, and I will try to co-operate in this regard too.

The Chairman: I wonder, Mr. Spicer, if perhaps Mr. Fraser would be the best witness on the estimates. You have an estimate for transportation and communication which shows an increase. It is not very much but it is still an increase. What would that be exactly? Is that members of your staff travelling from one library to another, or what?

Mr. Spicer: We have a truck because we have a dispersed operation. We have books in storage at Tunney's Pasture. As I am sure you are all aware, they have changed the wording of some of these items and I am not certain but presumably communications refers to the telephone. Is that correct?

The Chairman: Would telephone be included there?

Mr. Dudley Fraser (Accounts, Library of Parliament): It includes telephones, postage and freight.

Mr. Spicer: Excuse me, the truck is separate. I have inadvertently misled you.

The Chairman: What professional services do you use outside of the members of your staff? You have an estimate for 1969-70 of $7,000 and for 1968-69 it was $8,000.

Mr. Spicer: Strange to say, this largely means microfilmed newspapers that we buy. They are prepared by other people. I must say that I do not believe the new headings which have been adopted are meaningful in all cases. To go back to your House estimates, you had a question about information which really meant printing.

[*Interpretation*]

ne me serait plus avantageux que de faire un résumé de certains de ces documents, de citer des sources, et ainsi de suite.

M. Spicer: Cela me fournit des munitions pour poursuivre, et je vous remercie de vos commentaires.

M. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): C'est un domaine que je voudrais utiliser beaucoup plus souvent et j'essayerai de coopérer avec vous dans ce sens.

Le président: Je me demande, monsieur Spicer, si M. Fraser ne serait pas votre meilleur témoin sur les prévisions budgétaires. Vous avez une prévision budgétaire pour les transports et communications qui indique une augmentation qui n'est pas énorme mais qui est tout de même une augmentation. Cela correspond à quoi exactement? Est-ce que cela a rapport à votre personnel qui se déplace d'une bibliothèque à une autre?

M. Spicer: Nous avons un camion parce que nos services sont étendus. Nous avons des livres entreposés à Tunney's Pasture. Vous savez tous, sans doute, qu'on a changé le libellé de certains de ces articles. Je ne suis pas trop sûr, mais je crois que «communications» a trait au téléphone. Est-ce exact?

Le président: Le téléphone serait-il compris?

M. Dudley Fraser (Comptabilité, Bibliothèque du Parlement): Cela inclut les téléphones, l'affranchissement et le transport de marchandises.

M. Spicer: Excusez-moi, le camion est séparé. Je vous ai induits en erreur par mégarde.

Le président: Quels sont les services professionnels, que vous utilisez en dehors des membres de votre personnel? Vous avez une prévision budgétaire de $7,000 pour 1969-1970 et de 8,000 pour 1968-1969.

M. Spicer: C'est peut-être surprenant, mais cela signifie surtout les journaux sur microfilms que nous achetons; ils sont préparés par d'autres. A mon avis, les nouveaux titres qui ont été adoptés ne sont pas toujours très significatifs. Pour en revenir à vos prévisions budgétaires de la Chambre, vous aviez une question au sujet d'«information» qui, en réalité, signifie «impression».

[*Texte*]

The Chairman: Are there any other questions, gentlemen, with respect to the library? Mr. Robinson.

Mr. Robinson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. One of the questions I was going to ask has to do with the breakdown of detail that we have for this year as compared to last year. I wonder why we have fewer headings and less detail. Is there any particular reason for this?

Mr. Spicer: This is laid on as a matter of government policy.

Mr. Robinson: I note under the estimates for this year that we have $81,000 for utilities, materials and supplies, and I do not find anything in the estimates for the previous year that specifically covers this. It looks as though it covers a number of items.

The Chairman: You have $82,000.

Mr. Spicer: Are you on page 294?

Mr. Robinson: Yes, page 294.

Mr. Spicer: You will find in the next column to the right that for 1968-69 it is $82,000. You have $81,000 in the 1969-70 column and $82,000 in the 1968-69 column.

Mr. Robinson: That must be a total of a number of the items from the previous book. There is no corresponding item in the previous estimates.

Mr. Spicer: No, but this translation, as it were, has been prepared so that it is meaningful if one understands the new words, and I am not...

Mr. Robinson: I always find it helpful to take a look at what happened last year in the breakdown and indicate the items in which there is a substantial increase. I notice last year you specifically mentioned microfilming but it is not mentioned at all this year. Do I understand that this is part of this $81,000 item.

Mr. Spicer: No, microfilming is apparently now under professional and special services. As I say, it does not particularly make sense to me. I do not think it is particularly meaningful but this is the straitjacket which we are put into by a decision which was not made in the library. As far as utilities, materials and supplies are concerned, this refers to the book budget, binding, magazine and newspaper subscriptions.

[*Interprétation*]

Le président: Vous avez d'autres questions, messieurs, en ce qui concerne la Bibliothèque? Monsieur Robinson?

M. Robinson: Merci, monsieur le président. Ma question se rapporte à la répartition du détail pour cette année par rapport à ce que nous avions l'an dernier. Je me demande pourquoi il y a moins de titres et moins de détails? Est-ce qu'il y a une raison particulière?

M. Spicer: C'est une question qui relève de la politique du gouvernement.

M. Robinson: Je remarque aux prévisions budgétaires pour cette année que nous avons 81 mille dollars pour les services d'utilité publique, les matériaux et fournitures. Je ne vois rien au budget pour les années précédentes qui couvre ces points. Il semble que cela couvre un certain nombre d'articles.

Le président: Vous avez $82,000.

M. Spicer: Est-ce que vous êtes à la page 294?

M. Robinson: Oui, page 294.

M. Spicer: Vous trouverez dans la deuxième colonne, à droite, que pour 1968-1969, c'est $82,000. Vous avez $81,000 dans la colonne de 1969-1970 et $82,000 dans la colonne 1968-1969.

M. Robinson: C'est un total, je pense que c'est le regroupement de différents points des budgets précédents? Il n'y a pas de points correspondants dans les prévisions budgétaires précédentes.

M. Spicer: Si l'on comprend le nouveau libellé, comme il a été préparé pour être significatif, si quelqu'un comprend les nouveaux termes, et je ne suis pas...

M. Robinson: Je m'intéresse toujours à la répartition de l'année précédente, et cela est particulièrement intéressant lorsqu'il y a une augmentation substantielle. Vous aviez les microfilms qui étaient particulièrement mentionnés l'an dernier, et ils ne sont pas mentionnés ici; je crois comprendre que cela fait partie de ce point de $81,000?

M. Spicer: Les microfilms font partie des services professionnels et spéciaux. Cela ne veut pas dire grand chose en ce qui me concerne, mais, malheureusement, nous n'avons pas le choix; nous sommes coincés, par une décision qui n'a pas été prise à la Bibliothèque. En ce qui concerne les services d'utilité publique, les matériaux et les fournitures, cela a trait à la reliure, les abonnements aux magazines et aux journaux.

[*Text*]

Mr. Robinson: Last year you had $58,000 for books for the library, including binding.

Mr. Spicer: Yes, but this did not include the $10,000 to operate the House of Commons reading room, which also comes under the library.

• 1110

Mr. Robinson: I see. How much are we spending for books this year?

Mr. Spicer: It is roughly the same amount. I am glad you asked that question because I mentioned our connection with the National Library Act earlier. The new National Library Act will do away with Parliament's right to have books under copyright deposit. We have an agreement that Parliament, by giving up this right, will get something in return, you will be glad to know. We expect to be provided with an extra $6,000 a year over and above our budget to take care of the free books we are losing from copyright.

Mr. Robinson: With regard to books, do we have any indication what the actual estimated cost of acquisition of new books will be for 1969?

Mr. Spicer: Yes, we do. It is $70,000, roughly. If I recall it correctly, I think we are spending about $73,000 this year.

Mr. Robinson: And what is the cost of binding and refurbishing the present books?

Mr. Spicer: Well unfortunately, and this is one of the inexplicable things, the budget is not broken down in this way. But I think you should know this, that even if it were, we have a bindery of our own. We send some binding out and we do some binding in the Library, so the figure is something that would be, perhaps, less than meaningful if you did not know the cost involved in operating our bindery.

Mr. Robinson: How many books did we purchase last year?

Mr. Spicer: Approximately 6,000.

Mr. Robinson: And how many books would be covered by this $73,000 proposed expenditure for 1969?

Mr. Spicer: I think perhaps you are apt to draw a misleading conclusion. Most of our books come in at no charge to us. We have exchange agreements. For example, we are a full depository library for United States Government documents and a depositary library

[*Interpretation*]

M. Robinson: Vous aviez $58,000 pour les livres y compris la reliure.

M. Spicer: Mais, cela ne comprenait pas les $10,000 pour faire fonctionner la salle de lecture de la Chambre des communes, qui relève également de la Bibliothèque.

M. Robinson: Combien dépenserons-nous pour les livres cette année?

M. Spicer: A peu près la même chose. Je suis heureux que vous aviez posé cette question, car j'ai parlé de nos rapports avec la Loi sur la Bibliothèque nationale; en vertu de la nouvelle Loi, nous n'aurons plus à recevoir des livres déposés en vertu des droits d'auteur. Nous avons abandonné ce droit, par entente avec le Parlement, mais nous allons obtenir quelque chose d'autre en retour. Nous espérons obtenir $6,000 de plus par an, en dehors de notre budget, pour compenser le fait que nous n'avons plus de livres gratuitement en application des droits d'auteur.

M. Robinson: Quels sont les frais prévus pour l'acquisition de nouveaux livres pour 1969?

M. Spicer: $70,000 environ, si je ne me trompe pas, nos dépenses seront d'environ $73,000 cette année.

M. Robinson: Et quels sont les frais de réparation et de reliure des livres que vous possédez.

M. Spicer: Malheureusement, nous n'avons pas de ventilation à ce sujet, mais vous devez savoir que nous avons notre propre service de reliure. Nous faisons une partie de nos travaux de reliure nous-mêmes, mais nous en faisons aussi faire à l'extérieur. Les chiffres sont peut-être un peu moins significatifs si on ne connaît pas les frais d'exploitation de notre atelier de reliure.

M. Robinson: Combien de livres avons-nous achetés l'an dernier?

M. Spicer: Environ 6,000.

M. Robinson: Combien de livres sont couverts par ces dépenses prévues de $73,000 pour 1969.

M. Spicer: J'ai l'impression que vous arrivez à une conclusion erronée. Il y a beaucoup de livres qui nous sont offerts gratuitement. Nous avons un accord d'échange. Nous conservons par exemple, les documents du gouvernement des États-Unis. Nous recevons les

[*Texte*]

for United Nations documents. We have exchange agreements with France, Britain, Australia, New Zealand, and a number of other countries.

So that the bulk of our collection is still government documents, and for those we do not normally pay unless we need extra copies. So that in this sense it is—the figures can be provided, but they do not show in the budget and they could be misleading.

Mr. Robinson: Well, monthly we receive lists of recent books, new books, acquisitions made by the Library. Now, would I assume that the lists that we receive are the total list of books that are received by the Library and paid for by the Library?

Mr. Spicer: No. That is just a selected list of books, the books that have come in fairly recently and appear to be most helpful at that time. We make no attempt to list all the books as they come in. No, that is a selection, a very small percentage of the actual books coming in.

Mr. Robinson: I find that from time to time I take a look at this list and I pick out two or three that I would like to take a look at. I will have them for about two days, and then I get a note that they are in short supply. Somebody else wants them, and so on. Is there any possibility of acquiring additional copies of some of the books that would appear to be much more in demand?

Mr. Spicer: Yes, we do that. There are certain political books now, for example, and there have been in the past, and I think the most we have ever bought of one book is about two dozen.

I agree with you, there is no point in buying two copies and everyone waiting for six or eight months to read a book. So if we know that there is going to be a demand—and we have some experience in this—we usually try to buy enough to satisfy the immediate demand. Usually books like this are ordered before publication. Sometimes publication dates are delayed, you see, or what has happened is that our order has not been filled while the book has been provided by the publishers to the bookstores. And this is even worse, because we know that no one believes us when we say, "Well, it is already on order. It has been on order for six months". You have seen it in the bookstore and you wonder why we have not got it.

Mr. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Like Judy's book.

[*Interprétation*]

documents des Nations Unies. Nous avons des accords d'échange avec la France, la Grande-Bretagne, l'Australie, la Nouvelle-Zélande et un certain nombre d'autres pays.

Donc, nous avons surtout des documents de l'État et nous ne les payons pas à moins que nous ayons besoin de beaucoup d'exemplaires. Donc, les chiffres existent, mais ils peuvent être trompeurs.

M. Robinson: Tous les mois nous recevons des listes des livres récents et des nouvelles acquisitions de la bibliothèque. Je suppose que la liste est la liste de tous les livres qui sont reçus et payés par la bibliothèque.

M. Spicer: Non, non. C'est une liste choisie de livres qui sont arrivés récemment et qui sont les plus intéressants dans le moment. Mais nous ne faisons pas une liste de tous les livres qui arrivent. Il s'agit, en fait, d'une sélection. Vous n'avez qu'un certain pourcentage des livres reçus.

M. Robinson: De temps à autre, j'examine cette liste et j'en choisis 2 ou 3 que j'aimerais consulter. Je les garde durant environ deux jours, et on me dit ensuite que nous en avons peu et que quelqu'un d'autre les veut. Est-ce qu'il ne serait pas possible d'obtenir des exemplaires supplémentaires de ces livres, des livres qui semblent plus demandés que d'autres?

M. Spicer: Oui, nous le faisons. Il y a des livres politiques, par exemple. Nous avons déjà acheté jusqu'à deux douzaines d'exemplaires d'un livre. Je suis d'accord qu'il est inutile d'acheter deux exemplaires d'un livre lorsque les intéressés doivent attendre six mois pour les lire. Nous savons qu'il y aura demande et essayons habituellement d'en acheter assez pour y répondre. Parfois, il y a des retards dans la publication, et parfois nous recevons les livres après les librairies et cela nous met dans une situation très déplaisante parce que nous pouvons dire que le livre est commandé, mais on ne nous croit pas.

M. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Comme le livre de Judy.

[*Text*]

• 1115

Mr. Spicer: I am trying to avoid advertising any single title. But we do, in fact, buy extra copies and what happens is that we would keep four or six permanently and the other copies would be given to the National Library.

If we call books back from you, this is one way of ensuring that one Member does not grab 10 copies from the selected accessions list and sit on them over a period of months because someone else would like to see them too. You see, we do not have, like a public library, a two-week loan period. Theoretically you may keep the book as long as you are using it.

Mr. Robinson: Well, this is my next question. I was wondering about the delinquency in returning books. Is there a substantial loss of books to the Library yearly? How is this overcome? Are there any penalties, or what do you do to try and recover books?

Mr. Spicer: We send a notice saying we would like to have it. This is if someone else asks for it. Also, when Parliament adjourns—this is fair warning to you—we send one of our staff members with a constable to all the offices and seize from your offices the books which happen to be on your shelves. We did make an error one time and seized a set of *Hansard* belonging to a Minister, and this did not make us very popular. We do not normally do that. But we get the books back, you see. You can always ask for them again, of course, when you come back, if you really want them.

This does not meet the matter of anything you have at home. But if finally a Member or someone else borrowing is driven to admit that he cannot find the book, and admits he has it—sometimes we have a little argument about whether or not a person took it out, or a Member may be defeated and yet he has, perhaps, 20 books out—we go over the list of books and we will say, "Well, this one we would have to replace. This one is too out of date; we will not worry about it. This was a novel that we got on copyright; we would not replace it". We then send him a complete list, pointing out that out of, say, 15 books, five will have to be replaced. We indicate what the cost is, and let him know that we would appreciate receiving a cheque made out to the Receiver General of Canada for that amount. This has always worked. This opportunity, when offered, has always been accepted. I think this is a fair statement. So in that sense, we are not losing books, and it operates reasonably well, I would say.

[*Interpretation*]

M. Spicer: J'essaie d'éviter de faire de la publicité pour quelque livre que ce soit. Nous achetons des exemplaires supplémentaires. Nous en gardons quatre ou six de façon permanente et les autres sont donnés à la Bibliothèque nationale.

Nous vous envoyons des notes de rappel simplement pour nous assurer qu'un député ne s'accapare pas de 10 copies des sélections et les conserve pendant plusieurs mois parce que quelqu'un d'autre aimerait les consulter à son tour. Nous n'avons pas, comme les bibliothèques publiques, une période de prêt de deux semaines. En théorie, vous pouvez garder un livre aussi longtemps que vous voulez.

M. Robinson: Voilà ma question suivante. Je me demande quelles difficultés vous avez pour le retour des livres? Est-ce que vous perdez beaucoup de livres chaque année, et comment résolvez-vous cette difficulté? Est-ce qu'il y a des amendes ou que faites-vous pour récupérer les livres?

M. Spicer: Nous vous envoyons une note d'abord, lorsque quelqu'un d'autre désire le livre. Lorsque le Parlement est en vacances, nous envoyons un constable dans chaque bureau qui saisit les livres qui sont sur vos rayons. Nous avons fait une erreur une fois. Nous avons pris une série du Hansard qui appartenait à un ministre et cela a soulevé bien des protestations. Normalement, nous ne le faisons pas. Vous pouvez toujours redemander les livres quand vous revenez.

Vous n'en avez pas besoin dans votre circonscription. Si un député nous dit qu'il ne peut trouver le livre et admet qu'il l'a en sa possession—il y a souvent des discussions pour savoir si une personne a sorti le livre ou non ou un député peut être vaincu et avoir encore 20 livres en sa possession—nous parcourons la liste en disant: «Celui-là nous devons le remplacer, celui-là est trop ancien, il ne nous intéresse pas. Ça c'est un roman.» Nous lui envoyons une liste en lui faisant remarquer que sur les quinze livres, il y en a cinq qui devront être remplacés, et nous lui demandons un chèque, fait à l'ordre du Receveur général du Canada, pour payer les livres. Cela a toujours marché. Les propositions que nous avons faites ont toujours été acceptées. Je crois que c'est exact. Donc, nous ne perdons pas de livres. Cela fonctionne assez bien, je devrais dire.

[*Texte*]

Mr. Robinson: You are saying that there is no substantial loss in books or the cost of books per year to the Library?

Mr. Spicer: Yes, that is correct.

Mr. Robinson: I have two other related questions. I have often wondered if the Library had any vehicles or any way of getting about—picking up books from other libraries, for instance, in exchange, or having special projects of books and series of books on display or something like this. Do we have anything of this nature?

Mr. Spicer: Oh, yes, we do have a book truck because we have a storage space which is about four miles from Parliament Hill. But as far as displays are concerned, the Library does not lend itself to displays. Anyone who has seen the Library realizes it is a display in itself. We do have, of course, the original flag proclamation and the two original bills of rights, and they are on display. They were put in during Centennial Year; they do not belong to us.

We still lend, because really Parliament has a very good collection. It has been built up over the years. We lend far more books to other libraries than they lend to us, and most of those go out by mail. But departmental libraries here can send a vehicle, or we have our own vehicle if there is something we want.

There is not usually a delay here except, of course, if Parliament sits late, and Parliamentarians sometimes ask for service during the weekend. Whenever Parliament sits late, the Library is open until the House rises in the evening. This is also true of the House of Commons reading room which comes under the Library, but obviously even if you can get in touch with the Library and ask for something, if we have it in storage we cannot go out and get it at midnight or two o'clock in the morning. It is possible, but usually the staff who would be able to get the book are not there.

Mr. Robinson: Your storage is all catalogued —the same way as—

Mr. Spicer: No. Our total collection is not catalogued, but it is accessible provided that our staff knows in advance. But the bulk of it is.

Mr. Robinson: Will there be any appropriation to completely catalogue the Library?

Mr. Spicer: Oh, yes, our cataloguing staff is working on this backlog. You see, the

[*Interprétation*]

M. Robinson: Vous dites qu'il n'y a pas de perte importante de livres ou que la valeur représentée pour la bibliothèque n'est pas très élevée.

M. Spicer: C'est exact.

M. Robinson: J'ai deux autres questions connexes. Premièrement, je me suis toujours demandé si la bibliothèque pouvait obtenir d'autres bibliothèques, des livres en échange ou bien si vous organisez des expositions. Est-ce que nous avons quoi que ce soit de ce genre.

M. Spicer: Nous avons un camion pour le transports car nous avons un dépôt à 4 milles du Parlement.

En ce qui concerne les locaux, la bibliothèque ne se prête pas du tout aux expositions. Elle est une exposition en elle-même. Nous avons la Proclamation originale du drapeau que nous exposons, ainsi que les deux bills des droits de l'homme. Ils ont été installés au cours de l'année du Centenaire, mais ne nous appartiennent pas.

Nous avons une excellente collection au Parlement. Nous prêtons beaucoup plus de livres aux autres bibliothèques qu'elles ne nous en prêtent, et nous les envoyons en général par la Poste. Les bibliothèques des ministères nous envoient des véhicules ou nous envoyons nos propres véhicules.

Il n'y a pas de retards habituellement, sauf lorsque la Chambre siège tard, et le parlementaires demandent parfois à être servis pendant les fins de semaine. La bibliothèque est ouverte, la bibliothèque et la salle de lecture sont ouvertes tant que la Chambre siège. Mais si vous demandez un livre qui est dans notre réserve, nous ne pouvons pas aller le chercher s'il est tard. Cela est possible mais très souvent le personnel nécessaire n'est pas là.

M. Robinson: Votre réserve est cataloguée de la même façon que...

M. Spicer: Notre collection totale ne figure pas au catalogue mais on peut y avoir accès si l'on prévient le personnel à l'avance.

M. Robinson: Est-ce qu'il serait nécessaire d'avoir un crédit pour mettre à jour votre catalogue?

M. Spicer: Nos catalogueurs y travaillent. Le cataloguage selon le système de la Biblio-

[*Text*]

cataloguing by the Library of Congress system did not start in the Library until 1952, and we had a very large library at that time.

Mr. Robinson: One further thing I wanted to ask about has to do with research. To what extent do you have people who are available to assist those Members doing research in various areas?

Mr. Spicer: It depends first of all on what you mean by research. There seems to be a great misunderstanding—not necessarily a misuse of the word but an imprecise use of the word 'research'.

Mr. Robinson: Maybe I should explain first that when I am using the term research at the moment I mean I am researching a topic such as, say, poverty, and I would like to dig out all of the material on this subject that would appear to be current or that has been written by authorities in the field. Do you have librarians who would be considered research-oriented to dig out this kind of material and be of assistance in preparing a brief on such a topic?

Mr. Spicer: Certainly. Our librarians have been doing this sort of thing for years. This is what the Reference Branch does. The Reference Branch is headed by M[lle] Simone Chiasson and she was the Chief Librarian for the Department of Trade and Commerce before we lured her to be our Chief Reference Librarian.

This is the distinction we make between reference and research. The Reference Branch will find the raw material you want, they will find the facts and figures, they will find the articles, they will provide you with the books and so forth. If, however, after you have looked over this, or before, and you know that there is one small area—or it could be a large area—in which you would like to have someone digest this massive material, then you would get in touch with Mr. Philip Laundy and his people, who are the research officers, and they will go through a mass of material and prepare a paper for you. This is something that has been prepared specifically for you, at your request, after consultation with them. So there are two ways in which we can help you. Either by providing raw material or by examining the raw material and preparing the paper.

Mr. Robinson: This is without cost? It is costing the Library something but it is not costing the member anything.

Mr. Spicer: We feel—and I am sure you agree—that the taxpayers have sent you here

[*Interpretation*]

thèque du congrès n'a commencé ici qu'en 1952 et nous avions déjà une collection imposante.

M. Robinson: En ce qui concerne les recherches, dans quelle mesure disposez-vous de gens qui aident les députés qui font de la recherche?

M. Spicer: Tout d'abord, je voudrais savoir ce que vous voulez dire par «recherches». Je ne dis pas que le mot est mal utilisé, mais je crois qu'il est utilisé de façon peu précise.

M. Robinson: Je vais expliquer ce que je veux dire. Lorsque je parle de recherches, je parle de recherches dans des domaines comme la pauvreté, et je voudrais avoir tous les documents récents sur ce sujet, tout ce qui a été écrit par des autorités dans ce domaine. Est-ce qu'il y a des bibliothécaires qui peuvent être considérés comme des recherchistes et qui pourraient aider à la rédaction d'un mémoire à ce sujet?

M. Spicer: Certainement. Nos bibliothécaires font cela depuis des années. C'est ce que fait la Division de référence. C'est Mlle Simone Chiasson qui s'en occupe. Elle était bibliothécaire en chef au ministère du Commerce avant de venir chez nous.

Voilà la distinction que nous faisons entre références et recherches. La Division de référence trouvera les données, les chiffres, les articles, les livres etc. Si, toutefois, quand vous aurez examiné cela, si vous croyez qu'il y a un domaine dans lequel ou un grand domaine où vous voulez que quelqu'un digère cette masse de documents, vous vous mettrez en rapport avec M. Philippe Laundy et son personnel, qui sont des recherchistes qui examineront les documents, qui vous prépareront un exposé spécialement pour vous après demande et après consultation. Il y a donc deux façons de vous aider: soit en vous fournissant des données brutes, soit en examinant ces données brutes et en préparant un exposé.

M. Robinson: Et cela est sans frais? Cela coûte quelque chose à la Bibliothèque, mais rien au député.

M. Spicer: Nous croyons, et je suis sûr que vous êtes d'accord, que les contribuables vous

[*Texte*]

to do a job and they provide this service for you.

Mr. Robinson: Along with this—this may be slightly out of your field—do I understand that various departments of government have their own library facilities?

Mr. Spicer: Yes, that is true.

Mr. Robinson: Are they in any way co-ordinated with the library facilities that you look after?

Mr. Spicer: No. There is no co-ordination in that sense except that, of course, we know our colleagues. There are not too many librarians. We pick up the phone and call or they will call us.

If you examine the new National Library Act, it gives the National Librarian power of co-ordination for departmental libraries but not the Library of Parliament. The Library of Parliament is excluded from this. And as in the old Act, in the new Library of Parliament Act the Parliamentary Librarian sits on the National Library Advisory Board. So in that sense the previous one has not been very effective and we hope that the new one will be more effective. There will be a meeting place for senior librarians and librarians not only in the public service but librarians and other people outside to ensure that the best use is made of not only government library facilities, but facilities throughout the country and abroad.

Mr. Robinson: I would assume, then, that if I wanted topical, specific, up-to-date material on agriculture, the place to go would be to the library facilities of the Department of Agriculture, would it? To get something in depth on the topic I would need to go to the Library of Parliament.

Mr. Spicer: No. You can get current information from us too. It really depends partly on how you wish to do it. For example, we know that the member is in a slightly awkward position here and it really is a decision he makes. We know that if a member calls—I will not mention any departments but if he calls certain departments, the fact that he has asked for information will immediately, or almost immediately be communicated to the minister. Now if he does not mind that is fine. If, however, he wants to get the information

• 1125

without the minister's knowing that he specifically has asked for it, then I would advise him to call us, because when we make a request for information, we do not say,

[*Interprétation*]

ont envoyé ici pour faire un travail et il est normal qu'on vous assure ce service.

M. Robinson: Cela est peut-être étranger à votre domaine, savez-vous que différents ministères du gouvernement disposent de leurs bibliothèques.

M. Spicer: Oui, c'est vrai.

M. Robinson: Est-ce qu'il y a une coordination entre ces bibliothèques et votre bibliothèque?

M. Spicer: Non. Il n'y a pas de coordination en ce sens, sauf, bien entendu, que nous connaissons nos collègues. Il n'y a pas tellement de bibliothécaires. Nous pouvons téléphoner, les appeler, ou ils nous appellent à la Bibliothèque nationale.

Si vous examinez la nouvelle Loi sur la Bibliothèque nationale, vous constaterez que le directeur national de la Bibliothèque nationale peut coordonner les différentes bibliothèques, mais nous sommes exclus de cette coordination. Et, comme dans l'ancienne Loi, d'après la nouvelle Loi sur la bibliothèque du Parlement, le bibliothécaire parlementaire est membre du Conseil consultatif de la Bibliothèque nationale. L'ancien système n'était pas très efficace et nous espérons que le nouveau système fonctionnera mieux. Les bibliothécaires au niveau supérieur pourront se réunir et pourront rencontrer tous les bibliothécaires, et il s'agira d'une coordination non seulement des bibliothèques de l'État mais aussi des bibliothèques privées et des bibliothèques de l'étranger.

M. Robinson: Je suppose que si je veux des données à jour sur l'agriculture, il faut que je m'adresse à la bibliothèque du ministère de l'Agriculture? Pour obtenir des données approfondies sur un sujet, il me faudrait aller à la Bibliothèque du Parlement.

M. Spicer: Non. Vous pouvez obtenir des données à jour chez nous aussi. Cela dépend de votre façon de procéder. Par exemple, nous savons que le député se trouve dans une situation un peu bizarre et c'est une décision qu'il prend. Disons qu'un député appelle un ministère que je ne mentionnerai pas, le fait qu'il a demandé des renseignements sera communiqué au ministre immédiatement ou presqu'immédiatement au ministre. Si cela ne le dérange pas, tout ira bien. S'il veut avoir des renseignements sans que le ministre sache que le député a demandé ces données, je lui dirais de s'adresser à nous. Lorsque nous demandons des renseignements, nous ne disons pas: «Il faudrait donner ces données

[*Text*]

"You are going to get it for us because we want it for Mr. so and so." We have a right to information from government departments in the same way as they have a right to receive information from our library. So, it depends. I would say that it is probably not a good idea to ask two or three agencies at once for the same information because they will find out that you have done this by the fact that we call each other. You will not get as good service next time.

Mr. Robinson: What would be considered as the priorities in terms of getting the information that you seek? Or is it just a question of whoever asks first will receive the service if the staff is available?

Mr. Spicer: We serve everyone as quickly as possible unless, of course, he says, I am going out of town on a committee meeting and will not be back for two weeks, but I would like to have this ready when I come back because I know that such and such is coming up" or "this is the time I wish to make this particular speech." Obviously the more time you give us to do the work, the better the work will be done. But if you come in and say, "In half an hour I have to make a speech. Give me everything you have", well! As an example of an imprecise question, I got a letter from one of the members, a very hard-working chap, on a Friday saying that he would like to have in his office when he came back on Monday all the information we had on defence. Well, my heart fell. Monday morning I called and said, "If you want all the information we have on defence you will have to move out of your office halfway down the hall.

If you can be a little more specific we can give you exactly what you want." And, of course when we discussed it with him we found that he actually wanted something on atomic warfare and we gave him the information he wanted. In other words, you help us to serve you if you are able to decide in your own mind what you want. Sometimes, though, this decision is best made in discussing it with a librarian or a research officer, because you may have a pretty good idea but not be certain. Also, of course, not knowing the sources you may, as some members do, ask for information which in fact is not available in the form you want it and which cannot be made available by us or by anybody else.

Mr. Robinson: Do you find that you have sufficient staff at present to provide the necessary facilities for members in this research end I have been asking about?

[*Interpretation*]

pour M. Untel.» Les ministères de l'État doivent nous fournir des données de même que nous devons leur fournir des données. Cela dépend. Je pense que cela n'est pas très bon de demander les mêmes renseignements à deux ou trois organismes, parce qu'ils s'en rendront compte du fait que nous nous appelons. La prochaine fois, vous n'aurez pas un aussi bon service.

M. Robinson: Quelles sont les priorités en ce qui concerne l'obtention de ces données? Est-ce simplement une question du premier arrivé premier servi?

M. Spicer: Nous servons tout le monde aussi rapidement que possible, à moins que quelqu'un nous dise, par exemple: «Je quitte Ottawa pour une séance de Comité, je reviens dans deux semaines. J'aimerais avoir ces données à mon retour parce que je sais que la question sera soulevée» ou «que c'est alors que je veux faire ce discours.» Il est évident que plus vous nous donnez de temps pour faire le travail, mieux le travail sera fait. Mais si vous nous dites: «Dans une demi-heure, je dois faire un discours. Donnez-moi tout ce que vous avez». Eh bien! Pour vous donner un exemple d'une question imprécise, un député, un type qui travaille très dur, m'a écrit un vendredi me disant qu'il voulait avoir dans son bureau le lundi tous les renseignements dont nous disposions sur la défense. J'ai été sidéré. Je l'ai rappelé le lundi matin en lui disant: «Si vous voulez toutes les données sur la défense, vous devrez quitter votre bureau, faute d'espace.

Si vous voulez être plus précis, je peux vous donner par exemple, toutes les données sur la guerre atomique». Vous nous aidez à vous servir si vous précisez exactement ce que vous voulez. Parfois vous arriverez à un meilleur résultat en nous consultant. Parfois vous avez une idée assez précise de ce que vous voulez, mais elle n'est pas suffisamment précise. Et parfois, vous demandez, parfois vous ne pouvez pas disposer des données que vous voulez sous la forme voulue.

M. Robinson: Trouvez-vous que, présentement, vous avez le personnel suffisant pour aider les députés à faire leurs recherches à la Bibliothèque?

[*Texte*]

Mr. Spicer: As I say, we cannot always provide it just as quickly as you would like to have it, but we cannot add staff because we really do not have the space.

Mr. Robinson: I would think most members would know at least a week or two weeks in advance of when they required something. I know I certainly would. It is not usually an emergency situation. If you had that much lead time, would this be sufficient for most topics?

Mr. Spicer: Yes, I think it would, but unfortunately members do not know that soon; for example, when the government backbencher is told to talk out a private member's bill. He may be told at 10 o'clock in the morning that he is on at 5 o'clock, and it may be a subject about which until that moment he knew nothing. And this has happened quite a number of times.

Mr. Robinson: It does not seem that way in the House sometimes.

Mr. Spicer: Well, perhaps he did not call us. But if he does call us, then the speech is that much better. Of course we would give that desperate man a bit of priority over another who, as you have said, wanted his information, in two weeks time. I think you would appreciate the same treatment if you were stuck that way.

Mr. Robinson: Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman.

The Chairman: Are there any other questions to the Librarian? I wish to thank you very much, Mr. Spicer and the other witnesses, Miss Hardisty and Mr. Fraser.

Mr. Spicer: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I have enjoyed testifying.

The Chairman: Gentlemen, we will stand Vote 25—Library of Parliament, as we did Votes 10, 15 and 20 for the House of Commons estimates, on account of not having a quorum. Although we have heard the witnesses, as you very well know we cannot legally pass those estimates for the time being. The first thing we will do at the next meeting is to call out these estimates and ask for them to be carried.

Now we have other witnesses here this morning who have been waiting for us.

• 1130

Would you prefer that we adjourn the meeting as we do not have a quorum or that we hear the witnesses who are already here? Mr. Gundlock.

[*Interprétation*]

M. Spicer: Nous essayons en général de vous servir aussi rapidement que possible, mais, en réalité, nous ne pouvons ajouter du personnel faute d'espace.

M. Robinson: Je dirais que la plupart des députés savent une semaine ou deux à l'avance quand ils ont besoin de quelque chose. Quant à moi, c'est ce qui arrive. Parfois, sauf dans les cas d'urgence, si vous avez deux semaines, est-ce que cela suffit pour la plupart des sujets?

M. Spicer: Oui, en général, les députés n'appellent pas assez longtemps à l'avance, par exemple, un député de l'arrière-ban devra parler au sujet d'un bill d'origine parlementaire. On lui dit à dix heures qu'il doit parler à dix-sept heures et il s'agit parfois d'un sujet dont il ne sait rien. Cela se produit souvent.

M. Robinson: Ce n'est pas ce que nous croyons, de la Chambre.

M. Spicer: Parfois, il ne s'adresse pas à nous, mais s'il s'adresse à nous, alors nous donnons à cet homme, il peut espérer les premiers services. Vous aimeriez bénéficier des mêmes conditions si vous étiez dans le même cas.

M. Robinson: Merci beaucoup, monsieur le président.

Le président: Est-ce qu'il y a d'autres questions à poser au bibliothécaire? Merci beaucoup, monsieur Spicer et les autres témoins, mademoiselle Hardisty et monsieur Fraser.

M. Spicer: Je vous remercie, monsieur le président, ça m'a fait plaisir.

Le président: Messieurs, cela termine l'étude du crédit 25—Bibliothèque du Parlement. Parce que nous n'avons pas de quorum, nous devons le réserver comme nous l'avons fait pour les crédits 10, 15 et 20 portant sur la Chambre des communes. Bien que nous ayons entendu les témoins, nous ne pouvons pas adopter légalement ces crédits. A la prochaine séance alors, la première mesure à prendre sera de mettre en délibérations ces crédits et demander leur adoption.

Nous avons d'autres témoins ici et qui nous attendent. Préférez-vous que nous ajournions la séance faute de quorum, ou que nous écoutions les témoins qui sont déjà présents? Monsieur Gundlock.

[*Text*]

Mr. Gundlock: Mr. Chairman, I feel rather badly that there are not more of us and particularly the witnesses we are waiting for at the moment. Would it be possible to hear their statements and then maybe adjourn and have them at another meeting shortly?

The Chairman: Hear the statements they are going to make this morning and approve the votes at another meeting?

Mr. Gundlock: Yes. The initial statement or their statement; and we may have an opportunity to look at this as a whole committee and then come back and get to business.

The Chairman: Is that agreed?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Mr. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Is this the Auditor General's Department?

The Chairman: The Auditor has gone to the United Nations.

Mr. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): What page is dealt with here?

The Chairman: That is page 108, $2.7 million. Mr. Long, will you please make a statement? For the time being the committee will just examine your statement. Later on, if you do not mind, you will have to come back to another meeting to answer whatever questions they have at that time. Is that agreeable to you?

Mr. G. R. Long (Assistant Auditor General, Auditor General's Office): Mr. Chairman, I was a little taken aback when I heard you mention a statement. I have not appeared before this Committee before and I did not come prepared with any statement. However, the Auditor General's office is a comparatively small office and not a great deal is involved. The total estimate is $2.7 million, plus the Auditor General's salary which is a statutory charge, making a total of $2,730,000. This represents an increase of $272,000 over the estimates of last year. I might mention the staff numbers. Most of the money required is for salaries and the staff provided for for 1969-70 is 250; the number provided for in the previous year was 245, an increase of 5 man-years.

Mr. McCutcheon: Just at this point, Mr. Chairman, at the top of the page it says: "Strength (man-years)". Does this simply mean that there are 250 employees or 245 as the case may be? What does that mean?

Mr. Long: This is the number of people we are authorized to employ. It does not mean

[*Interpretation*]

M. Gundlock: Monsieur le président, je regrette que nous ne soyons pas plus nombreux, surtout pour écouter les témoins que nous avons ici. Pourrait-on écouter leurs exposés et ajourner, et les reconvoquer une nouvelle fois?

Le président: Entendre leurs déclarations ce matin et approuver les crédits à une autre séance?

M. Gundlock: Oui. Leur déclaration initiale ou leur déclaration; puis nous pourrons examiner ces déclarations en comité et reprendre nos travaux ensuite.

Le président: D'accord?

Des voix: D'accord.

M. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): S'agit-il des comptes de l'Auditeur général?

Le président: L'Auditeur est parti à l'ONU.

M. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): A quelle page sommes-nous?

Le président: Page 108, $2,700,000. Monsieur Long, pourriez-vous nous en dire quelques mots? Pour l'instant, le comité examinera simplement votre exposé et vous pourrez revenir un autre jour, si vous le voulez bien, pour répondre aux questions du comité. Cela vous va?

M. G. R. Long (Auditeur général adjoint, bureau de l'Auditeur général): Monsieur le président, j'ai été un peu surpris de vous entendre parler d'une déclaration. N'ayant jamais encore témoigné devant votre Comité, et je n'ai pas préparé de déclaration avant de venir ici. Toutefois, le Bureau de l'Auditeur général est assez restreint et compte peu de services. Les crédits globaux sont de $2,700,000; en y ajoutant le traitement statutaire de l'Auditeur général, cela fait $2,730,000, soit une augmentation de $272,000 par rapport aux crédits de l'an dernier. A l'égard du nombre d'employés, le gros des crédits demandés concerne les traitements pour le personnel de 250 employés; l'année dernière, il y avait 245 employés, ce qui fait une augmentation de cinq années-hommes.

M. McCutcheon: Justement, monsieur le président, au sommet de la page, on voit «Personnel (années-hommes». S'agit-il de 250 ou de 245 employés? Qu'entend-on par ce poste?

M. Long: Il s'agit du nombre autorisé d'employés dans notre service, ce qui ne veut pas

[*Texte*]

we have them. At the moment we do not have all of that staff. It means that we were authorized to employ a staff of 245 in 1968-69 and we have been given authority to employ a staff of 250 in 1969-70.

Mr. McCutcheon: That is fine.

Mr. Long: Mr. Chairman, I do not know

• 1135

what other information the members might be interested in.

Mr. Robinson: Perhaps we could go on with a few questions.

The Chairman: Would you like to question the witness?

Mr. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): I would like to hear Mr. Robinson ask questions. If he does not have any, I have some.

The Chairman: All right; Mr. Robinson?

Mr. Robinson: I have a few here, Mr. Chairman. The first question I want to ask has to do with the accommodation, and so on, that is provided by other departments. Do I understand correctly from this that you use space, shall we say, in other departments and then it is a book entry whereby one is offset against the other?

Mr. Long: This is a standard procedure, Mr. Robinson. There are no entries, but all departments now show in their estimates the estimated value of the services they receive from other departments. This is standard through all departments of government.

In the case of the Auditor General, the legislation requires departments to supply space. It is a rather conflicting situation. The amount that is shown as provided to us by other departments would not necessarily include all the space that we occupy, because some departments regard it as their cost to provide us with accommodation.

Mr. Robinson: The reason I specifically asked this question is that my understanding of some of the functions of your department is that it goes from department to department. In other words, you do not have set offices where you remain, but you go to other departments and use some of their services and some of their office space. Is that correct?

Mr. Long: All of the major departments provide us with permanent office space for the staff attached to that department.

Mr. Robinson: So that you have staff in these departments at all times?

[*Interprétation*]

dire que nous sommes au complet, en fait, ce n'est pas le cas en ce moment. Il faut entendre par là que nous avions l'autorisation d'employer un personnel de 245 employés en 1968-1969 et de 250 en 1969-1970.

M. McCutcheon: C'est parfait.

M. Long: Monsieur le président, j'ignore quels autres renseignements pourraient intéresser les députés.

M. Robinson: Nous pourrions peut-être interroger le témoin.

Le président: Auriez-vous des questions à poser au témoin?

M. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): J'aimerais entendre les questions que M. Robinson a à poser. S'il n'en a pas, moi, j'en ai quelques-unes.

Le président: Parfait, monsieur Robinson?

M. Robinson: J'en ai quelques-unes. Ma première question porte sur les locaux et l'équipement qui vous sont accordés par d'autres ministères. Je crois comprendre que vous vous servez de locaux dans d'autres ministères, et que ce genre de service est comptabilisé.

M. Long: Selon l'usage actuel, monsieur Robinson, ce service n'est pas comptabilisé, mais tous les ministères font figurer dans leurs crédits la valeur estimative des services qu'il reçoivent d'autres ministères. Cela se fait dans tous les ministères.

En ce qui concerne l'Auditeur général, la loi exige que les ministères lui assurent de l'espace. C'est une situation assez confuse, car les montants qui correspondent aux services fournis par les autres ministères n'englobent pas nécessairement tous les locaux que nous occupons, car certains ministères incluent ce service dans leurs coûts.

M. Robinson: La raison pour laquelle je pose cette question, c'est qu'une partie de vos effectifs, n'est-ce pas, se transporte d'un ministère à l'autre? Autrement dit, vous n'occupez pas de locaux permanents, vous vous rendez dans les autres ministères et vous recourez à une partie de leurs services et de leur espace, n'est-ce pas?

M. Long: Tous les grands ministères nous accordent des locaux permanents pour l'effectif qui y est affecté.

M. Robinson: Donc, vous y comptez un personnel permanent?

[*Text*]

Mr. Long: At all times, yes.

Mr. Robinson: In other words, it is permanent space allotted to your department by the other departments.

Mr. Long: That is right.

Mr. Robinson: For which you are charged; it is an offset.

Mr. Long: As I say, in some cases Public Works may not be aware that we are occupying this particular space because the department regards it as theirs which they are required by law to provide to us. A slight confusion exists so far as our office is concerned.

Mr. Robinson: I am always a little bit concerned about these offsets from one department to another, because it seems this is something we always overlook. We just say: "Well, this is charged by the other department", and we never investigate this and I sometimes wonder who sets the value on these items. Do we know that this is really a legitimate charge to be made?

Mr. Long: The Department of Public Works would put a value on the space, and any department I think would object if they were recorded as using space to a greater value than they think they actually are using.

Mr. Robinson: So that there is, in effect, an independent department that determines the value of the space that each of the departments are being charged with in their estimates?

Mr. Long: The Department of Public Works, yes.

Mr. Robinson: Now, there is an item here called "Information" and I am wondering exactly what this means. There is an allowance of $21,000 this year and there was $19,000 last year. What sort of information are we talking about?

Mr. Long: This is the Auditor General's Report.

Mr. Robinson: That is to print the Auditor General's Report, is that it? I suppose it is going to be a large report in 1969 so you need an extra couple of thousand dollars; is that it?

Mr. Long: That does not necessarily indicate an increase in size. Costs are going up all the time. There is an increase in the 1968 Report.

[*Interpretation*]

M. Long: C'est exact.

M. Robinson: Autrement dit, il s'agit de locaux permanents importés à votre bureau par les autres ministères.

M. Long: C'est exact.

M. Robinson: Et ce service vous est imputé?

M. Long: Enfin, dans certains cas, le ministère des Travaux publics peu ignorer que nous occupions tel ou tel local, parce que le ministère intéressé considère que c'est un espace que la loi l'oblige à fournir. Une certaine confusion règne à cet égard.

M. Robinson: Je me soucie toujours de ces transferts de comptes entre ministères, car il me semble qu'ils nous échappent toujours. On dit: ce compte nous est imputé par tel autre ministère. Mais nous ne faisons jamais enquête là-dessus. Je me demande parfois qui établit la valeur de ces services. S'agit-il vraiment de frais légitimes?

M. Long: C'est le ministère des Travaux publics qui évalue les locaux, mais les ministères s'opposeraient, je pense, à ce qu'on attribue à cet espace une valeur supérieure à celle qu'eux-mêmes établissent.

M. Robinson: Il y a donc un ministère autonome qui établit la valeur de l'espace compté à chaque ministère dans les crédits.

M. Long: Oui, le ministère des Travaux publics.

M. Robinson: Il y a ici un poste appelé «Information» comportant $21,000 cette année contre $19,000 l'année dernière. Qu'entend-on par «information»?

M. Long: Il s'agit du rapport de l'Auditeur général.

M. Robinson: Ce sont les frais d'impression, donc? Je suppose que le rapport sera assez volumineux en 1969 et que c'est pour cela qu'il vous faut $2,000 de plus.

M. Long: Cette hausse ne reflète pas nécessairement une augmentation du nombre de pages. Ce sont les coûts qui augmentent tout le temps. Le rapport de 1968 coûtera plus cher.

[*Texte*]

The Chairman: Yes; compared with the 1967 Report.

Mr. Long: Yes.

Mr. Robinson: Now, when we talk about Transportation and Communications, do you have any breakdown of this $120,000?

Mr. Long: There are a great many papers used in setting up these estimates, but this will be shown here I think.

Mr. L. Vincent (General Administration, Auditor General's Office): It is the same as in all the other departments; it comprises telephones, telegrams, travel, postage and freight.

Mr. Robinson: We have another item over here called "Carrying of franked mail (Post Office)". That would not be part of it, then.

Mr. Vincent: No, this actually is an expenditure of the Post Office Department for carrying the mail which they charge the Department. You see, this is a free service as far as departments are concerned.

• 1140

Mr. Robinson: What is the cost of telephone, then, as one item? Do you have any cost on that? How much of the $120,000?

Mr. Vincent: Approximately $10,000.

Mr. Robinson: Now how do we spend the other $110,000?

Mr. Vincent: There is $105,000 for travel.

Mr. Robinson: Is this actual travel fares, or is it allowances?

Mr. Long: All travel costs.

The Chairman: Are these expenses paid on vouchers or are they allowances?

Mr. Long: They are all paid on vouchers—actual out-of-pocket. Transportation and Communications, in the back of your Blue Book, is set out in such a way as to show specifically what they include. They are standard for all departments. This is object number two. Travelling would include everything involved in respect of somebody going away from his home to carry out some work for the office.

Mr. Robinson: What control is there over this kind of expenditure?

The Chairman: Are you audited?

[*Interprétation*]

Le président: Par rapport à celui de 1967?

M. Long: Oui.

M. Robinson: Avez-vous une ventilation du crédit de $120,000 affecté aux transports et communications?

M. Long: Il entre beaucoup de données dans la préparation de ces crédits, mais tout cela y figure, je pense.

M. L. Vincent (Administration générale, bureau de l'Auditeur général): Comme dans tout autre ministère, il y a divers frais: appels téléphoniques, télégrammes, déplacements, affranchissements et transports.

M. Robinson: Il y a un autre poste appelé «Transport du courrier en franchise (Postes)» Ce poste n'y figure donc pas?

M. Vincent: Non, il s'agit de dépenses du ministère des Postes pour le transport de notre courrier, dépenses qui nous sont imputées, bien que ce service soit fourni gratuitement aux autres ministères.

M. Robinson: Quels sont les frais de téléphone? Vous avez ce renseignement? A combien s'établissent-ils?

M. Vincent: A $10,000, environ.

M. Robinson: Comment les $110,000 qui restent sont-ils dépensés?

M. Vincent: On compte $105,000 pour les déplacements.

M. Robinson: S'agit-il de frais ou d'indemnités de déplacement?

M. Long: Des frais, tout simplement.

Le président: Ces dépenses sont-elles remboursées sur présentation de reçus ou par allocations?

M. Long: Elles sont toutes payées selon les reçus. Le poste des transports et communications, à la fin du Livre bleu, est présenté de façon à indiquer de façon précise ce qu'il comprend. Il est le même pour tous les ministères. Voilà le deuxième item. Les voyages comprennent tous les déplacements d'une personne pour les besoins du bureau.

M. Robinson: Comment surveille-t-on de telles dépenses?

Le président: Êtes-vous vérifié?

[*Text*]

Mr. Long: Oh yes, there is an independent auditor to the Auditor General, but we do check our expenses very carefully to see that he does not have anything to report. The travelling involves audit work that the Auditor General considers necessary to do and travel advances are only issued on my requisition or, in my absence, on one of the directors.

Mr. Robinson: Would Transport and Communications include, say, meals and other incidental expenses as well as the actual travel fares?

Mr. Long: Yes, it would.

Mr. Robinson: It includes all the amenities that go with it. It could include hotel rooms and so on?

Mr. Long: Yes—all expenses incurred in making the trip to do the job.

Mr. McCutcheon: May I ask a supplementary question at this point?

The Chairman: Yes, go ahead.

Mr. McCutcheon: You mentioned an independent auditor.

Mr. Long: Yes.

Mr. McCutcheon: Where does he come from?

Mr. Long: A change is being made now. I believe this man is appointed by the Treasury Board. It has been over the last number of years the chap who occupies the position, I believe, of Comptroller of the Post Office. Now a man in the Dominion Bureau of Statistics has been appointed. I have not met the gentleman yet. This appointment was made a few weeks ago.

Mr. McCutcheon: This leads me to another question. How do you hire your help?

Mr. Long: In the way that all government employees are hired, through the Public Service Commission.

Mr. McCutcheon: In other words, the people that you are going to audit are going to be the people that hire your staff for you?

Mr. Long: That is right.

Mr. McCutcheon: Now would it not be a desirable improvement if you were to hire your own people?

Mr. Long: The Auditor General is on record as expressing that to be a fact and the

[*Interpretation*]

M. Long: Il y a un auditeur indépendant pour l'Auditeur général, mais nous surveillons attentivement nos dépenses afin qu'il n'ait rien à déclarer. Les déplacements comprennent le travail de vérification jugé nécessaire par l'Auditeur général et des avances pour frais de voyage ne sont accordées qu'à ma demande ou en mon absence par un des directeurs.

M. Robinson: Les transports et communications comprendraient-ils des dépenses secondaires, telles les repas ou autres, aussi bien que les dépenses de voyage proprement dites?

M. Long: En effet.

M. Robinson: Ce poste inclut toutes les commodités accessoires, comme les chambres d'hôtel, n'est-ce pas?

M. Long: Oui, toutes les dépenses subies pendant le voyage.

M. McCutcheon: Puis-je poser ici une question supplémentaire?

Le président: Allez-y.

M. McCutcheon: Vous avez mentionné un auditeur indépendant.

M. Long: Oui.

M. McCutcheon: D'où vient-il?

M. Long: Il y a un changement. Il est nommé par le Conseil du Trésor, je crois. Au cours des dernières années, je pense que c'était celui qui occupait le poste de contrôleur du ministère des Postes, mais maintenant on a nommé un employé du Bureau fédéral de la statistique. Je ne l'ai pas encore rencontré. C'est une nomination qui ne remonte qu'à quelques semaines.

M. McCutcheon: Voilà qui m'amène à une autre question. Comment recrutez-vous votre personnel?

M. Long: Comme tous les autres, par l'intermédiaire de la Commission de la Fonction publique.

M. McCutcheon: Autrement dit, ceux dont vous allez vérifier les comptes sont ceux qui vont recruter votre personnel.

M. Long: C'est exact.

M. McCutcheon: Pourrait-on améliorer les choses si vous recrutiez votre propre personnel?

M. Long: L'auditeur général abonde dans ce sens et le Comité des comptes publics a

[*Texte*]

Public Accounts Committee has gone on record as recommending that the Auditor General be free to employ his own people.

Mr. McCutcheon: What reason does the Public Service Commission advance for not allowing this?

Mr. Long: As I recall it, they say that there is no reason that they cannot provide the staff we need. The present law requires that they do the recruiting for our office as well as for other departments and while they have it within their power to exempt people from this requirement they do not feel that they have a justifiable reason for so doing.

Mr. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): I have a supplementary on this.

The Chairman: Mr. Thomson.

Mr. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): But they cannot fire them. If you were not satisfied with someone you would have to do the firing; the Public Service Commission could not do this, could they?

• 1145

Mr. Long: This is a question that does not come up very often. There was a time when the Governor in Council would have to initiate the firing of anyone. I cannot say positively whether or not it has to go to the Governor in Council now, but the Commission would not.

Mr. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): And what about promotion within a department?

Mr. Long: The Commission is involved. As a practical matter, I think the Commission permits most departments to carry on their own promotional competition subject to their surveillance.

We have rather a unique arrangement with the Commission in that one of their officers has been seconded to our Department. He is paid by the Commission but he reports to us. He occupies quarters in our office and he is given the title of Secretary of the Department. This has assisted to some extent in that we have a man who knows our particular problems and our particular needs and we do not have to go and explain it to a different person each time these problems and needs come up. Being a fairly small office, the Commission would not have had a staff or any one individual for any length of time responsible for our hiring problems. But this arrangement has been made and has served to save a great deal of my time and the time of others in the

[*Interprétation*]

recommandé que l'auditeur général ait la liberté de recruter son propre personnel.

M. McCutcheon: Et pourquoi la Commission de la Fonction publique refuse-t-elle de l'autoriser?

M. Long: Si je me rappelle bien, elle prétend qu'il n'y a aucune raison pour laquelle elle ne pouvait pas fournir le personnel dont nous avons besoin. La loi l'autorise à faire le recrutement pour nous et pour les autres ministères; quoique c'est dans leur pouvoir d'exempter les gens de cette obligation, mais ils estiment qu'ils n'ont pas de raison légitime pour le faire.

M. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Une question supplémentaire.

Le président: Monsieur Thomson.

M. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Mais elle ne peut les congédier. Si vous n'êtes pas contents des services d'un employé, vous pouvez le révoquer; la Commission de la Fonction publique ne le peut pas.

M. Long: C'est une question qui ne survient pas très souvent. Il y avait un temps où le Gouverneur en conseil pouvait entreprendre de congédier quelqu'un. Je ne peux affirmer si on doit encore passer par le Gouverneur en conseil, mais la Commission n'intervient pas.

M. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): A propos d'avancement au sein d'un ministère?

M. Long: La Commission intervient. Et du côté pratique, la Commission permet à la plupart des ministères de faire les concours de promotions soumis à sa surveillance.

Nous avons une entente un peu spéciale avec la Commission, du fait qu'un de ses agents est appuyé par notre Bureau. Il est rémunéré par la Commission, mais il rend compte à nous. Il occupe des locaux dans notre bureau et il a le titre de secrétaire du Bureau. Cela a aidé dans une certaine mesure, du fait qu'on a quelqu'un qui connaît nos problèmes particuliers, nos besoins particuliers, nous n'avons pas à nous adresser à une personne différente chaque fois que de tels problèmes surviennent. Étant un bureau restreint, la Commission n'aurait pas le personnel ou une personne pendant une période de temps qui sera en charge du recrutement. Cela a aidé à faire économiser beaucoup de temps à moi et à d'autres au Bureau.

[*Text*]

office in processing the hiring through the Commission.

Mr. McCutcheon: Do you run into any cases of piracy? By that I mean you have a particularly able person and, being involved in the Public Service, the next thing you know this chap is over in some other department at a salary that you cannot meet?

Mr. Long: This happens, yes.

Mr. McCutcheon: Is this not a bad thing?

Mr. Long: I can see arguments both ways in a thing like that. Over the years we have provided quite a number of people to other departments. Our office gives a fairly broad training in government procedures and so on, and just as public accounting firms are sometimes glad to see their graduates go to their clients—it is a help to them—it is a help to us. The thing that we do not like is when we have somebody who has come to us fairly recently, we are developing him, then an offer comes along through the Commission for some other department. They have not been with us long enough to have been very much use to us or to have learned a great deal from working with us. The Commission does have an inventory for the senior grades. They know who is available when a particular job comes up, and we have lost some of our top people to other departments because of that. The inventory throws up the name, the Commission communicates with them and asks them if they will put in an application for such and such a job in such and such a department.

Mr. McCutcheon: Thank you, and thank you, Mr. Robinson.

Mr. Robinson: Mr. Chairman, I have some additional questions and they are actually along the lines that have been mentioned by my friends across the way.

Talking about Professional and Special Services, the item is only $13,000. I would have assumed that your Department would be bringing in specialists in accounting and research-oriented fields to a greater extent than this. Is there not any necessity for high-priced help in some of these fields?

Mr. Long: We have not found it necessary to bring people on staff from other fields like that. The bulk of Professional Services is so that we can obtain legal advice. We do not have access to the Department of Justice for legal advice; we have lawyers retained who serve us on a fee basis.

[*Interpretation*]

M. McCutcheon: Connaissez-vous des cas de piraterie? Par cela je veux dire que si vous avez un homme très compétent et, participant à la Fonction publique, on le transfère à un autre ministère à un traitement qui est au-delà de vos moyens?

M. Long: Cela se produit.

M. McCutcheon: Ce n'est pas une bonne chose, n'est-ce pas?

M. Long: Je peux voir des arguments pour et contre dans cette question. Au cours des années, nous avons fourni bon nombre d'employés à d'autres ministères. Notre bureau donnait une formation très générale dans les procédures gouvernementales. De même qu'une étude de comptables publics est parfois heureuse de voir ses gradués passer à l'emploi de ses clients car cela les aide, il en est de même pour nous. Ce que nous n'acceptons pas, c'est que lorsque nous avons un employé récent, que nous formons et que la Commission de la fonction publique le mute à un autre ministère. Il n'a pas été assez longtemps pour nous avoir été d'une grande utilité ou pour avoir beaucoup appris de nous. La Commission a un inventaire des postes supérieurs et sait qui est disponible lorsqu'il se produit une ouverture. Nous avons perdu certains de nos meilleurs employés aux autres ministères à cause de cela. L'inventaire lance un nom; la Commission entre en contact avec elle, lui demandant si elle veut faire une demande pour un certain poste dans un certain ministère.

M. McCutcheon: Merci, monsieur Robinson.

M. Robinson: Monsieur le président, j'aurais d'autres questions dans la même veine que celles de mon ami de l'autre côté. Le poste des services professionnels et spéciaux est de $13,000.

J'aurais supposé que votre service aurait fait venir dans une plus grande mesure des spécialistes en comptabilité et dans les domaines orientés vers la recherche.

M. Long: Nous n'avons pas jugé nécessaire de faire venir de telles personnes. Le gros de ce poste est tel qu'on puisse obtenir des conseils juridiques. Nous ne pouvons pas faire des démarches auprès du ministère de la Justice pour obtenir des conseils juridiques; nous avons retenu des avocats qui travaillent pour nous, contre honoraires.

[*Texte*]

Mr. Robinson: We are all concerned about the whole question of accountability and we are somewhat alarmed when we see how some of the taxpayers' money is squandered as a result of what is revealed by your department and others. Just recently we passed legislation giving more responsibility to department heads, deputies and so on and yet at the same time this whole question of accountability is one of our major problems.

• 1150

How are you going about coping with this kind of thing to see that money is properly spent by departments that you are investigating?

Mr. Long: There is much to be said for giving the head of a department the authority and then placing on him the responsibility. We have seen cases where responsibilities have been passed between the Department, between the Commission and between Treasury Board. There is always an excuse somewhere—it is somebody else's responsibility. But I think that the recent changes in legislation are a step in the right direction here. The Deputy Minister will be responsible; there will be no question about it.

Now, how are we coping with it? We have been asked what this means to us. Do we have to take on more staff? Will we have to do more work? We do not know. We have to see this in operation. We will have to do more work at the beginning to see that the Department picks up and includes procedures equally as good as the procedures which have been eliminated by the elimination of the Comptroller of the Treasury. The Department might do an equal job, they might not do as good a job, or they might do a better job. The amount of work we will have to do depends on that.

Mr. Robinson: The impression that I get, and I am speaking only for myself, but I think it is shared by many others, is that the Public Service or Department heads or many people know that there have been averages in expenditures in one area or another, that there have been mistakes made, and yet nothing is ever said about it. Nothing is done until somebody does some poking around and comes up with a statement saying, "Well, you just paid $1 million for leasing a building that you did not use", or something. Now this is foolish. Why, in the name of goodness, cannot a Department such as yours ferret these things out ahead of time so we can stop it before it gets completely out of hand?

Mr. Long: Well, of course, our audit is a post-audit. We cannot go in and take part in

[*Interprétation*]

M. Robinson: Toute la question de comptabilité nous préoccupe tous et nous sommes inquiets de voir comment on gaspille l'argent des contribuables comme le révèlent votre Bureau et d'autres. Tout dernièrement, nous avons adopté une législation qui donne plus de responsabilité aux chefs des ministères, aux sous-chefs, et ainsi de suite, et en même temps, cependant, la question des comptes est un problème sérieux. Comment va-t-on s'attaquer à ce problème pour empêcher que l'argent soit gaspillé au sein des ministères que vous examinez?

M. Long: Il y a un grand avantage à accorder au chef du ministère l'autorité et de lui en donner ensuite la responsabilité. Nous avons vu des cas où la responsabilité est répartie entre les ministères, la Commission et le Conseil du Trésor. Il y a toujours l'excuse que c'est la responsabilité de quelqu'un d'autre. Mais je crois que les modifications récentes apportées aux lois, sont un pas dans la bonne voie. Le sous-ministre sera comptable au Parlement, cela ne fait aucun doute.

Comment nous nous attaquons à ce problème? On nous a demandé ce que cela signifie pour nous. Devons-nous recruter du personnel plus nombreux et intensifier nos efforts? Nous ne le savons pas. Nous devons attendre les résultats. Nous aurons à travailler plus fort au début pour que le ministère choisisse et établisse des procédures au moins aussi bonnes que celles qui ont été enlevées par l'élimination du contrôleur du Trésor. Le ministère peut faire des efforts égaux, ils peuvent être moins bons ou meilleurs. La somme de travaux que nous aurons à accomplir en dépendra.

M. Robinson: Je ne parle qu'en mon nom propre, mais j'ai l'impression—impression qui semble partagée par d'autres—que la Fonction publique, les chefs de service ou beaucoup de personnes savent qu'il y a eu des moyennes de dépenses dans un secteur ou un autre, qu'il y a eu des erreurs de commises et cependant, on n'en parle jamais. On ne fait rien jusqu'à ce que quelqu'un intervienne et fasse une déclaration disant: «Vous venez de payer 1 million de dollars pour la location d'un édifice que vous n'avez pas utilisé», ou quelque chose de la sorte. C'est de la folie. Pourquoi donc un ministère comme le vôtre ne peut-il découvrir ces choses avant que vraiment la situation soit catastrophique?

M. Long: Nous, nous ne faisons des vérifications qu'une fois que tout est terminé.

[*Text*]

the administration of departments. They are responsible; they carry out their job. If there has been wastage, we do our level best to detect it and to include it in our Report. We do only a test audit though. With a staff of 250 in the tremendous organization of the Government of Canada, we cannot cover everything.

Mr. Robinson: Would you recommend a change in the legislation whereby your people could walk into a department, virtually at any time, and do spot audits and do some checking to see what has been going on?

Mr. Long: We can do this now. We can walk in at any time, but the time that would be taken to try and follow through something that was active would be tremendous. Files are not available, they are being used.

Mr. Robinson: How much of the taxpayers' money was thrown away last year foolishly, as disclosed by your Department? Could this money not have been used to greater advantage by ferreting out these things before they happened?

Mr. Long: You mean stopping them before they happen.

Mr. Robinson: Exactly. I would much rather pay staff to stop these things happening than to just throw the money away.

Mr. Long: I am afraid there is no way. What you are really suggesting is that we pre-audit, and this is a concept that has been done away with.

Mr. Robinson: All I know is that if I operated my business the way this operates I would be bankrupt and so would any other businessman. I think it is time that we looked at things realistically, and not consider that there is a bottomless well of money available for this kind of thing.

Mr. Long: I cannot do anything but agree with you on that.

Mr. Robinson: What is the answer? What can your Department do to obviate this kind of thing?

Mr. Long: We are limited to reporting to the House of Commons what has happened; ours is a post-audit.

Mr. Robinson: What recommendations would you make?

Mr. Long: That the Public Accounts Committee consider carefully everything that is

[*Interpretation*]

Nous ne pouvons pas participer à la gestion des ministères. Ils sont responsables, ils font leur travail. S'il y a eu du coulage, nous faisons de notre mieux pour le déceler, pour le mentionner dans notre rapport. Mais nous ne faisons qu'une vérification d'essai. Nous avons un personnel de 250 personnes pour examiner l'organisation énorme qu'est le gouvernement. Nous ne pouvons pas faire mieux.

M. Robinson: Pensez-vous que l'on devrait modifier la loi de façon que vos gens puissent faire des vérifications par sondage à tout moment dans les ministères pour savoir ce qui s'est passé.

M. Long: Nous pouvons le faire maintenant. Nous pouvons le faire à tout moment, mais il nous faudrait un temps énorme pour contrôler ce qui est en marche. Les dossiers ne sont pas disponibles, car ils sont en circulation.

M. Robinson: Combien d'argent des contribuables a été jeté par la fenêtre, l'an dernier comme l'a révélé votre ministère? Est-ce que cet argent n'aurait pas été utilisé mieux en découvrant ces choses avant qu'elles ne se produisent?

M. Long: Vous voulez dire les arrêter avant qu'elles ne se produisent?

M. Robinson: Exactement. Je préfère payer du personnel pour éviter que ces choses se produisent plutôt que de jeter l'argent par les fenêtres.

M. Long: Malheureusement, on ne peut pas y arriver. Vous pensez que nous devrions faire une vérification préalable, mais cela ne fait plus partie de nos attributions.

M. Robinson: Je sais que si mes affaires étaient gérées de cette façon, je ferais faillite et il en serait de même pour d'autres hommes d'affaires. Nous devons examiner la situation de façon réaliste et nous n'avons pas des ressources inépuisables d'argent pour cela.

M. Long: Je suis entièrement d'accord avec vous.

M. Robinson: Quelle est la réponse à ce problème? Que peut faire votre ministère pour éviter ce genre de choses?

M. Long: Nous ne pouvons que faire rapport à la Chambre des communes de ce qui s'est produit. Notre vérification est ultérieure.

M. Robinson: Quelle recommandation pouvez-vous faire?

M. Long: Que le Comité des comptes publics étudie de très près tout ce qu'on lui

[*Texte*]

reported, and that the recommendations of the Public Accounts Committee be seriously considered and implemented.

• 1155

Mr. Robinson: Maybe we should refuse to pass these various votes until we are satisfied that we are not going to have this re-occurrence year after year after year.

An hon. Member: Hear, hear.

Mr. Long: Well, that is the support that the Public Accounts Committee could well use, I understand.

Mr. Robinson: I say this in all sincerity. It distresses me, it distresses many Canadians and many of my constituents; they think we throw money around like crazy people or something, and maybe we do, but we should not be. I certainly did not come up here to fool around and throw money away wildly. I have people in my constituency who have great needs, and they need this money, and we need to use it constructively and properly. I would like to get some feedback as to what we can do to stop this wastage of public funds.

Mr. Gundlock: May I interrupt?

The Chairman: Mr. Gundlock?

Mr. Gundlock: I agree with you 100 per cent.

An hon. Member: I knew you would.

Mr. Gundlock: The suggestion has come forward, and I have had it in mind for some time as a matter of fact, that the Public Accounts Committee could perhaps single out one or two items that have been mentioned and have witnesses before the Committee, or in some way follow it up in Committee as has been suggested. I do not know how that might go. For instance, there seems to be no way in the world of getting hold of the Northwest Territories Council. Why not bring them here and ask for an accounting? Or any other item—maybe one or two a year.

Mr. Robinson: My feeling is that when we get the Auditor General's Report and we find that there have been wastages of funds and so on, we should trace it right down to the people responsible and have them appear here as witnesses and give an accounting of how they threw this money away.

Mr. Gundlock: That is what I mean.

[*Interprétation*]

signale, mais que les recommandations du Comité des comptes publics soient examinées de très près et soient appliquées.

M. Robinson: Nous devrions peut-être refuser d'adopter ces divers crédits jusqu'à ce que nous soyons assurés que nous n'aurons pas ce genre de choses tous les ans.

Une voix: Bravo!

M. Long: Il est certain que le Comité des comptes publics pourrait utiliser cet appui.

M. Robinson: Je suis très sincère. Beaucoup de Canadiens, beaucoup de mes commettants et moi-même sommes désolés de penser que nous jetons l'argent par les fenêtres. C'est peut-être le cas et nous ne devrions pas. Je ne suis pas venu ici pour jeter l'argent par les fenêtres. J'ai des gens dans ma circonscription qui ont de grands besoins, qui ont besoin de cet argent, et nous devons nous en servir de façon constructive et appropriée. Et je voudrais savoir ce que nous pourrions faire pour arrêter ce gaspillage de deniers publics.

M. Gundlock: Je voudrais interrompre.

Le président: Monsieur Gundlock?

M. Gundlock: Je suis d'accord avec vous à 100 p. 100.

Une voix: Je savais que vous le seriez.

M. Gundlock: La proposition a été faite et il y avait longtemps que je l'avais à l'esprit. Je pense que le Comité des comptes publics pourrait isoler un ou deux points signalés et faire comparaître des témoins devant le Comité, ou y donner suite au Comité, comme on l'a suggéré. Je ne sais pas comment on pourrait s'y prendre. Il me semble y avoir aucun moyen de convoquer le Conseil des Territoires du Nord-Ouest, par exemple. Pourquoi ne pas le faire venir ici et lui demander de nous donner un compte rendu ou tout autre point, peut-être un ou deux par année?

M. Robinson: Je crois que lorsque nous aurons le rapport de l'auditeur général et nous constaterons qu'il y a eu des gaspillages, nous devrions retrouver les gens responsables et les faire comparaître comme témoins et nous rendre compte de la façon dont ils ont gaspillé cet argent.

M. Gundlock: C'est ce que je veux dire.

[*Text*]

The Chairman: Gentlemen, I am sorry, but I do not think we are on Item 50 at all as we are going now.

Mr. Robinson: Well, I get carried away, Mr. Chairman.

The Chairman: The discussion was very interesting, but I think we must now come back to Item 50—Salaries and Expenses of Office. All of those things are being looked after by the Public Accounts Committee. Are there any other questions?

Mr. Robinson: With respect, Mr. Chairman, they were looked after last year and the year before, and they are looked after every year, but we still get the same problems.

The Chairman: You are out of order, I am sorry, Mr. Robinson. Is there any other discussion on Item 50? Thank you very much, Mr. Long.

Mr. Long: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

The Chairman: We will try to get the Vote carried at the next meeting when we have a quorum.

Now, we have some people here from the National Capital Commission. Will you please come to the front? You have been very patient, seeing that you have been here since 9.30 this morning.

Mr. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Mr. Chairman, just while they are coming, could I make a suggestion?

The Chairman: Go ahead.

Mr. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): When the notices come to us about the meetings, could we have a list of people or committees who are going to be present that day listed on the notice? Would that be possible?

The Chairman: We could try, anyway. Sometimes it is difficult to know a day ahead who is coming, but we will try. I think that would be a good idea.

Mr. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): I think it might make our questions more intelligent if we knew what we were going to discuss. I did not know this morning until I got here.

Mr. Robinson: Mr. Chairman, could we at least know which estimates we are going to discuss?

The Chairman: Yes, well that is what he was mentioning.

Mr. Robinson: He was asking about various people, but I want to know what estimates.

[*Interpretation*]

Le président: Messieurs, je regrette, mais je ne crois pas que nous parlions vraiment pas du crédit 50.

M. Robinson: Je me laisse emporter, monsieur le président.

Le président: La discussion était très intéressante, mais je crois que nous devrions revenir au crédit 50, Traitements et dépenses du Bureau. Tout cela est étudié par le Comité des comptes publics. Avez-vous d'autres questions?

M. Robinson: En toute déférence, monsieur le président, on s'en est occupé tous les ans et la situation se reproduit tous les ans.

Le président: Vous enfreignez le règlement, monsieur Robinson. Je regrette. Y a-t-il d'autres questions sur le crédit 50? Merci, monsieur Long.

M. Long: Merci, monsieur le président.

Le président: Nous essaierons de faire adopter le crédit à la prochaine réunion lorsque nous aurons le quorum.

Nous avons des gens maintenant de la Commission de la capitale nationale. Veuillez vous avancer, s'il vous plaît. Vous avez été extrêmement patients, messieurs, car vous êtes là depuis neuf heures et demie ce matin.

M. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Monsieur le président, pendant qu'ils s'avancent, puis-je faire une suggestion.

Le président: Allez-y.

M. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Lorsqu'on nous enverra les avis des réunions, pourrait-on nous donner la liste des comités ou des gens qui viendront aux comités ce jour-là?

Le président: Nous pourrions essayer cela. Parfois il est difficile de savoir un jour à l'avance qui viendra, mais nous essayerons. Je crois que c'est une bonne idée.

M. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Je pense que cela nous permettrait de poser des questions de façon plus intelligente, si nous savions de quoi nous allons parler. Je ne savais rien ce matin avant de venir.

M. Robinson: Monsieur le président, pourrions-nous au moins savoir quelles prévisions budgétaires nous allons étudier?

Le président: Oui, c'est ce qu'il a mentionné.

M. Robinson: Sa question portait sur les diverses personnes qui assisteraient au

[*Texte*]

The Chairman: We will look into that and see what can be done. The witnesses for the National Capital Commission are Mr. E. W. Thrift, General Manager; Mr. J. A. MacNiven, Director of the Construction and Services Division; Mr. M. Couture, Director General of Finance and Administration; Mr. J. E. Kirchner, Director of Finance; and Mr. A. Morin, Secretary of the Commission.

• 1200

Alors, messieurs, les prévisions budgétaires sont à la page 346.

Mr. Thrift, do you have a general statement to make to this Committee?

Mr. E. W. Thrift (General Manager, National Capital Commission): Mr. Chairman, I can make a brief statement, if you like. We are, as the others were, appearing for the first time before this Committee. We had word of this at four o'clock yesterday afternoon, so the matter of preparation of special statements was not possible, but if it is the will of the Committee I would just like to outline the nature of the Commission, its purpose and some of the nature of the job it does.

The Commission was established under the National Capital Act as a Crown corporation under Schedule "C" of the Financial Administration Act. The Act reads:

> The objects and purposes of the Commission are to prepare plans for and assist in the development, conservation and improvement of the National Capital Region in order that the nature and character of the seat of the Government of Canada may be in accordance with its national significance.

That is a good solid statement from the Act and it is interesting to us that even in that Act, which was passed in 1958, the purpose could be stated in one sentence. Under that purpose, of course, we have a number of responsibilities and things we can do. I would like to just touch on a few of them.

As a planning agency the Commission has responsibility for integrating its plans with those of other federal departments and agencies, local agencies and organizations so that we get the best kind of Capital that we can create. In order to do this, of course, we have three basic activities. The first and obvious one is the administrative services, which are the support and advisory services of the organization. Next is a basic planning function which is very similar to city or, if you

[*Interprétation*]

Comité. Je voudrais savoir quelles prévisions budgétaires nous allons étudier.

Le président: Je vais m'en occuper et voir ce qui peut être fait. Les témoins de la Commission de la capitale nationale sont MM. Thrift, directeur général, J. A. MacNiven, directeur, Division des services et des travaux, M. M. Couture, directeur général des finances et de l'administration; M. J. E. Kirchner, directeur des finances; et M. A. Morin, secrétaire de la Commission.

Gentlemen, the Estimates are on page 346.

Monsieur Thrift, est-ce que vous avez une déclaration à faire au Comité?

M. E. W. Thrift (Gérant général, Commission de la capitale nationale): Monsieur le président, si vous le voulez, je vais faire une brève déclaration. Comme les autres, nous témoignons pour la première fois devant ce comité et on ne nous a avertis qu'hier après-midi à 4 heures. Il était donc impossible de préparer une déclaration spéciale. Cependant, je voudrais seulement vous donner une idée générale de ce qu'est la Commission. Je vous parlerai de ses objectifs et également de la fonction qu'elle remplit. La Commission a été créée en vertu de la Loi sur la capitale nationale, société de la Couronne en vertu de l'Annexe C de la Loi sur l'administration financière. La loi se lit:

> La Commission a pour buts et objets de préparer des plans d'aménagement, de conservation et d'embellissement de la région de la Capitale nationale et d'y aider, afin que la nature et le caractère du siège du gouvernement du Canada puissent être en harmonie avec son importance nationale.

C'est un argument solide que nous fournit la loi et il est intéressant pour nous que même dans cette loi qui a été adoptée en 1958 on a réussi à résumer les fonctions de la Commission en une phrase. Pour réaliser cet objectif, nous avons un certain nombre de responsabilités et des choses que nous pouvons faire. Je voudrais en aborder quelques-uns. A titre d'organisme de planification, la Commission est chargée de l'intégration de ses programmes et de ceux des autres organismes et ministères, d'organisations et organismes régionaux de façon à faire une capitale aussi harmonieuse que possible. Nous avons donc trois activités de base: tout d'abord, les services administratifs, qui appuient et conseillent l'organisation. La deuxième est une fonction de planification comparable à celle d'une

[*Text*]

like, regional planning function in which we prepare and maintain through periodic revision a strategic plan for the development of the region and the development of policies that will carry out the basic plans for the development and conservation improvement of the region.

In this connection, of course, we must co-operate with many other federal departments and particularly with the Department of Public Works, which is responsible for the construction of government buildings in the region, but we must also co-operate and work with local authorities, provincial governments and the agencies of these levels of government which carry out development and have their own plans for development in this region.

In this connection we provide planning assistance to many of these agencies, and particularly to municipal levels of government, on request in the preparation of their local plans and getting them co-ordinated with our over-all schemes of development.

Beyond this, of course, we must develop project plans for the work that we do ourselves, but these things can also be part of the work which is carried out by others. We work in co-operation with other agencies in the execution or implementation of development schemes or projects and in this connection, of course, we sometimes find that our staff is doing work which is in some measure financed by other people because of the nature of the arrangement, the co-ordination and co-operation that must be brought about.

As to implementation, many of you are familiar with many of the things the Commission does because these are the things you see. The parkways, the Gatineau Park, the location and sites for government buildings, the railway re-location program, these are all elements in the over-all Greber plan which was prepared and tabled in Parliament in 1951 and which is the basis for the long-range development of the Capital. We also get involved, as I mentioned a minute ago, with works that other agencies share with us or we share with them, or in which they are the major agency of implementation, but we are anxious that they co-ordinate with our work.

This is a general statement, Mr. Chairman. I trust it will give the members the information they would like.

The Chairman: Mr. McCutcheon.

Mr. McCutcheon: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The National Capital Commission, as I

[*Interpretation*]

ville si vous voulez, une fonction de planification régionale où grâce à des revisions périodiques, nous préparons et maintenons un plan stratégique destiné au développement de la région et au perfectionnement de lignes de conduite qui permettra d'appliquer les plans de base pour l'expansion et l'amélioration de la conservation de la région.

Nous devons naturellement collaborer, dans ce contexte, avec de nombreux ministères de l'État et en particulier avec le ministère des Travaux publics qui est chargé de la construction des bâtiments de l'État dans la région. Nous devons collaborer avec les autorités municipales, les gouvernements provinciaux et les organismes de ces niveaux de gouvernement qui appliquent nos programmes de développement, et avoir leurs propres projets de développement dans la région.

A cet égard, nous aidons plusieurs organismes et en particulier les organismes municipaux de gouvernement à préparer leurs plans locaux et nous les coordonnons à nos programmes généraux de développement. Nous devons prévoir des plans pour notre travail mais cela peut aussi faire partie du travail qui est effectué par d'autres. Nous travaillons en collaboration avec d'autres organismes pour exécuter ou mettre sur pied les programmes ou projets de développement. Dans ce cadre, parfois, nous constatons que notre personnel fait un travail qui, dans une certaine mesure, est financé par d'autres en raison des accords de collaboration et de coordination qui sont conclus.

Sur le plan des réalisations, plusieurs d'entre vous connaissent le travail de la Commission parce que vous les voyez: Les routes, la promenade de la Gatineau, l'emplacement des bâtiments du gouvernement, le programme de déplacement des voies ferrées, tout cela sont des éléments du Plan Gréber qui a été préparé et déposé au Parlement en 1951 et qui constitue la base du développement à long terme de la capitale. Nous nous occupons également des travaux, comme je l'ai déjà mentionné, que d'autres organismes partagent avec nous ou que nous partageons avec eux, où ces organismes sont les principaux responsables de leur application, mais nous sommes désireux qu'ils coordonnent leur travail avec le nôtre. Voilà la déclaration que je voulais faire, monsieur le président. Je crois que cela aura donné aux députés les renseignements qu'ils souhaitaient.

Le président: Monsieur McCutcheon.

M. McCutcheon: Monsieur le président, la Commission de la capitale nationale, si j'ai

[*Texte*]

understand it, and please bring me up to date, owns and, shall we say, controls large areas about our Capital. For example, I believe the Greenbelt falls under your jurisdiction. How much territory is involved in this in Ontario?

Mr. Thrift: The Greenbelt covers an area of some 43,000 to 44,000 acres. It includes land which the Government of Canada already owned before the Greenbelt was established, such as Uplands Airport, the Connaught Rifle Ranges and some other establishments for radio and other kinds of communication. These are parts of the Greenbelt. Our Acquisition involves something of the order of 35,000 acres.

Mr. McCutcheon: How much is in the Province of Quebec?

Mr. Thrift: There is no part of the Greenbelt in the province of Quebec.

Mr. McCutcheon: How much of the National Capital Commission is effective in the Province of Quebec?

Mr. Thrift: The National Capital Region is defined in the Act as an area of 1,800 square miles, about half of which is in Ontario and half in Quebec.

Mr. McCutcheon: I see.

Mr. Thrift: This is the area within which we work. We cannot do anything beyond the limits of the Region as established in the Act.

Mr. McCutcheon: How far ahead on the calendar is it envisaged that this plan will be effective and that you will not need any more acquisitions? I know that is a hypothetical question but it is one that I wonder about as I drive around.

Mr. Thrift: Mr. Chairman, I suppose this will really depend a good deal on the over-all development of the plan for the National Capital as the Capital itself develops. We can see it growing to about 1995 or 2000, give or take a few years, to a population of some one and a half million. I am speaking of the region as a whole. Essentially the population of the region now stands at something over half a million, 550,000 to 580,000. In the course of the coming years, in which we can foresee this kind of scale of growth, we believe that this will probably lead to a good deal of pretty serious consideration about government policy and the extent to which it influences the growth which would take care of this level of growth.

[*Interprétation*]

bien compris et si je me trompe, dites-le moi, surveille de grandes zones situées autour de notre capitale. La ceinture de verdure relève de votre compétence, je crois. Quelle est, en Ontario, la surface qui en fait partie?

M. Thrift: La ceinture de verdure couvre 43,000 ou 44,000 acres. Elle comporte des terrains qui appartenaient à l'État avant la création de la ceinture de verdure, comme entre autres l'aéroport d'Uplands, le Connaught Rifle Range et quelques autres établissements de radio et d'autres sortes de communications, qui font partie de la ceinture de verdure. Nous avons acquis environ 35,000 acres.

M. McCutcheon: Combien dans le Québec?

M. Thrift: La ceinture de verdure n'existe pas au Québec.

M. McCutcheon: Quelle est la surface contrôlée par la Commission de la capitale nationale dans le Québec?

M. Thrift: D'après la loi, la Région de la capitale nationale couvre 1,800 milles carrés dont une moitié en Ontario et l'autre au Québec.

M. McCutcheon: Je vois.

M. Thrift: C'est la région dans laquelle nous travaillons. Nous ne pouvons rien faire en dehors des limites de la région établies par la loi.

M. McCutcheon: Pour combien de temps est-ce que ce régime sera en vigueur et que vous n'aurez pas besoin de nouvelles acquisitions de nouveaux terrains? C'est une question hypothétique bien sûr mais c'est une question qui me préoccupe.

M. Thrift: Cela dépend dans l'ensemble de la réalisation de nos programmes à mesure que la capitale elle-même se développera. Je pense que cela pourra aller jusqu'en 1995 ou l'an 2000 pour que la population atteigne 1 million et demi d'habitants. Je parle de toute la région. La population dans la région compte plus d'un demi-million d'habitants, soit environ 550,000 ou 580,000. Au cours des prochaines années pour lesquelles nous prévoyons cette échelle de croissance, je crois que cela obligera à examiner sérieusement la politique gouvernementale et la mesure dans laquelle elle peut influencer cette croissance.

[*Text*]

I think it would be a little bit crystal ball, if you like, to predict that and yet we recognize this as a serious responsibility. It is on this basis that we are trying to assess the economic prospects of this region; what the growth will mean in terms of economic activity and physical development and what that physical development will need in the way of space for the government itself—not only this, but for all the other activities that make up an effective, working and satisfying community in the Capital of this country. This is a serious and very broad-ranged objective, and yet we believe very deeply in the possibilities of this place.

Mr. McCutcheon: You have to. As a supplementary question, what is the furthest boundary from the Peace Tower?

Mr. Thrift: For the Region itself?

Mr. McCutcheon: Yes, as of this moment. How many miles would it be?

Mr. J. A. MacNiven (Director, Construction and Services Division, National Capital Commission): To the upper end of Gatineau Park in Quebec is approximately 40 to 45 miles and it would be approximately equal on the other side to what Mr. Thrift has described as the Region.

Mr. Thrift: Yes. The urban core is really about in the middle of the Region, and this includes the urbanized area of Hull and environs and Ottawa and its environs.

Mr. McCutcheon: What effect is regional government going to have on you?

Mr. Thrift: One of the things we have said about the establishment of regional government in Ontario is that we were interested —and I suppose the staff people were interested in, and pleased about this, in some ways—in having the responsibilities throughout the region for certain things in which we were directly involved, in many ways, handled by a single agency. This meant communication would be better in respect of those things for which they are responsible, that we could perhaps work things out rather more readily because they had a single agency, a single deciding body and a council; whereas if you have, as we have in the Ontario part of the region, about 35 or 40 municipal governments, it is a little harder to pull together.

[*Interpretation*]

Je pense que ce serait aller un peu au hasard que d'essayer de prédire cela, mais nous reconnaissons que c'est une responsabilité importante. C'est sur cette base que nous essayons d'évaluer l'avenir économique de cette région, ce que cette croissance signifiera du point de vue de l'activité économique et de l'expansion physique, et ce que devra être cette expansion en ce qui concerne l'espace nécessaire, non seulement pour le gouvernement mais aussi pour tous les autres domaines d'activité qui font une collectivité efficace, harmonieuse et satisfaisante dans la capitale de ce pays. C'est là un objectif très vaste et difficile, mais nous sommes convaincus que cette région offre toutes sortes de possibilités.

M. McCutcheon: Il le faut bien. Une question supplémentaire. A quelle distance se situe la limite la plus éloignée de la Tour de la paix?

M. Thrift: La limite de la région même?

M. McCutcheon: Oui. A l'heure actuelle, à combien de milles se situe-t-elle?

M. J. A. MacNiven (Directeur, Division des services et des travaux, Commission de la capitale nationale): Jusqu'au sommet du parc de la Gatineau, dans le Québec, il y a environ 40 ou 45 milles; et de l'autre côté, la limite de ce que M. Thrift a décrit comme étant la région est à peu près à la même distance.

M. Thrift: C'est cela. Le noyau urbain se situe en fait à peu près du centre de la région, et inclut la zone urbanisée de Hull et de ses environs, ainsi qu'Ottawa et ses environs.

M. McCutcheon: Quelles seront les répercussions d'un gouvernement régional sur vous?

M. Thrift: Nous avons dit, entre autres, en ce qui concerne l'établissement d'un gouvernement régional dans la partie ontarienne de la région, que cela nous intéressait et je pense que le personnel était lui aussi intéressé et heureux en un sens d'obtenir certaines des responsabilités dans la région pour certaines choses auxquelles nous nous intéressons directement et seraient réglées par un seul organisme. Cela faciliterait les communications et avec un seul organisme, un seul conseil directeur, cela permettrait peut-être de mieux régler les problèmes. Alors que si l'on a, comme en Ontario, par exemple, 35 ou 40 gouvernements municipaux, il est plus difficile d'arriver à une certaine coordination.

[*Texte*]

Mr. McCutcheon: In effect, it may simplify your job a little.

Mr. Thrift: In that respect we would hope so. We hope that we can be of better help to them too. This is the point; it is a two-way street.

Mr. McCutcheon: I read recently in the press of a Quebec West development plan. Will this be the same? Will it simplify, aggravate? What will be the situation?

Mr. Thrift: Mr. Chairman, that organization does not exist yet, although I guess we have been reading the newspapers too and, of course,. . .

Mr. McCutcheon: Well, we are looking ahead to 1985 and 2000 now you must admit.

Mr. Thrift: Two or three of us were fortunate enough to be able to attend the meeting of the Western Quebec Outaouais Economic Council last week when Dr. Lussier, the Minister of Municipal Affairs for Quebec, spoke about their hopes for regional government in the area and about a development agency. He spoke in very general terms but I think we look on the establishment of regional government in the Quebec part of the region in rather the same way that we would look on the establishment of regional government in Ontario. If this can be done and the agency can be given the kinds of responsibility which need to be dealt with at that regional level, this will be a good thing.

Mr. McCutcheon: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Mr. Chairman, earlier this morning we heard the Library and House of Commons staff discuss the shortage of space on the Hill. What responsibility, if any, has the Commission for Wellington Street or Sparks Street or some of the other streets adjacent to here?

Mr. Thrift: We have this measure of responsibility with respect to the property on the other side of Wellington Street, that is the south side of Wellington facing Parliament Square, in that buildings that may be put up on that property would come to the Commission for design approval. If this is property privately owned or owned by, for example, the United States Government, they do come to us and seek the approval of the Commission for the appearance of the buildings. We would not move into acquisition of that

[*Interprétation*]

M. McCutcheon: Cela simplifiera peut-être votre travail.

M. Thrift: Oui, nous l'espérons et nous espérons aussi que nous pourrons les aider mieux, cela marche dans les deux sens.

M. McCutcheon: J'ai lu récemment un article au sujet d'un projet de développement dans l'Ouest du Québec. Serait-ce la même chose? Est-ce que cela simplifierait ou aggraverait votre situation? Quelle sera la situation?

M. Thrift: Monsieur le président, cet organisme n'existe pas encore, mais nous avons, nous aussi, lu les journaux et, évidemment . . .

M. McCutcheon: Vous devez admettre que nous envisageons des choses pour les années 85 où même l'an 2,000.

M. Thrift: Deux ou trois d'entre nous ont pu assister à la réunion du Conseil économique de l'Outaouais, la semaine dernière. M. Lussier, le ministre des Affaires municipales du Québec nous a parlé de ses espoirs pour un gouvernement régional dans la région et d'un organisme de développement régional. Il a parlé en termes très généraux, mais nous nous intéressons autant à l'établissement d'un gouvernement régional dans la partie québécoise de la région qu'à l'établissement d'un tel gouvernement dans la partie ontarienne. Si cela pouvait se faire et si l'organisme pouvait avoir les responsabilités nécessaires pour traiter au niveau régional, ce serait parfait.

M. McCutcheon: Merci, monsieur le président.

M. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Monsieur le président, ce matin on a entendu les témoignages du personnel de la bibliothèque et de la Chambre des communes sur le manque de place sur la colline. Quelle est la responsabilité de la Commission pour la rue Wellington, la rue Sparks ou les rues adjacentes?

M. Thrift: Quant à la propriété de l'autre côté de la rue Wellington, c'est-à-dire du côté Sud, en face de la Colline parlementaire, nous avons des responsabilités parce que les édifices qui seraient construits là devaient être approuvés par la Commission. Si cette propriété est privée ou appartient par exemple au gouvernement des États-Unis, le propriétaire doit obtenir l'approbation de la commission avant de construire. Nous n'essayerions pas d'acquérir cette propriété sans directives de la part du gouvernement.

[*Text*]

property except on the instruction of the government.

We have been acquiring property in co-operation with the Bank of Canada in the block immediately south of the bank. This will develop or create a two-block area incorporating the block on which the bank now stands and the block to the south of it on the other side of Sparks Street. This will, we believe, afford the government an excellent opportunity to build more of the kind of office space which it needs to have close to Parliament Hill.

The bank, of course, will be interested in using an important part of that property for expansion of its accommodation. It has people scattered over many parts of the capital, as many agencies do, and it is anxious to see

• 1215

more effective and more efficient operations established on that property. But there will be additional land which can be made available for other departments of government that need to be in the immediate proximity of Parliament Hill. This is what is going ahead now in the way of developing schemes to do this and we are in the process of acquiring the property. That is one place and it is a two-block area.

We also have land on the east side of the Rideau Canal immediately south of Rideau Street which again can serve some of these functions although we are anxious that the establishing of these areas is done in such a way that no harm is done to the commercial heart of the city, but that there can be developed in conjunction with these, commercial activity of the kind that people use, not only from 9 to 5 but from 8 to 12 at night, if you like, that the shops can be there and that the people who work in those places will have shops available to them. But more than that, these are lively parts of the city where the people who work for government or whoever can really feel the heart of the city. This is the nature of the property that we have in the immediate vicinity of Parliament Hill.

Mr. Gundlock: May I ask a supplementary to that, Mr. Chairman?

Along this same line I would like to hear something about high rise versus low rise and how it fits with your plan, quite seriously.

Mr. Thrift: Mr. Chairman, this has, of course, been the subject of a great deal of public debate in the last quite a few months. The Commissions's position—and I carefully note it as the Commission's position and I

[*Interpretation*]

Nous avons acquis des propriétés en coopération avec la Banque du Canada dans la partie juste au Sud de la banque. Ceci créera une zone de deux blocs incorporant le bloc où se trouve la banque actuellement et le bloc sud de l'autre côté de la rue Sparks. Nous croyons que ceci donnera au gouvernement une occasion de construire plus de locaux dont il a besoin à proximité de la Colline parlementaire.

La Banque voudrait une partie importante de ces locaux pour ses employés. A l'heure actuelle, comme beaucoup d'autres organismes, elle a ses employés un peu partout et elle voudrait un regroupement pour améliorer le fonctionnement. Il y aura d'autres terrains disponibles pour d'autres ministères du gouvernement qui doivent être à proximité de la Colline parlementaire. Voilà les projets qui sont en voie de réalisiation. Nous sommes en train d'acquérir la propriété. C'est un des endroits, il contient deux blocs.

Nous avons également des terrains à l'Est du Canal Rideau au sud de la rue Rideau qui peuvent servir à certaines des fonctions mais nous ne voulons pas que les centres commerciaux de la ville soient touchés au cœur commercial même, mais nous pouvons envisager un développement conjoint avec ces commerces dont les gens se servent entre 9 heures et 5 heures et aussi entre 8 heures et minuit. Les magasins pourraient être à l'endroit même où les gens travaillent. Ce sont les centres nerveux de la ville, là où les gens aiment vivre. Voilà le genre de propriétés que nous avons aux alentours de la Colline.

M. Gundlock: Puis-je poser une question supplémentaire, monsieur le président?

Dans cette même optique, je voudrais entendre votre position sur le problème des immeubles très hauts et la façon dont cela cadre avec vos projets.

M. Thrift: Monsieur le président, il s'agit d'un sujet qui a fait l'objet de controverses depuis des mois. La position de la Commission, et je voudrais qu'on note que c'est la position de la Commission et je l'appuie moi-

[*Texte*]

support it myself—is that we have a heritage in the buildings that we are in now; an architectural heritage, a quality of structure and appearance which you go many places in the world to find equalled, we have had many people come here and say, "We wish we had something that would even approach this." They stand in the Parliament Square and look at these buildings in the Square or stand across the river on Nepean Point or on Sussex Drive and look at them.

This is one of the great places in this world. We are trying to protect this as the heritage of Canadians, as a symbol of this country and of its government. I suppose some of us feel about this that the government of a country is so central, so important, that the symbols of this need to be something that all Canadians can appreciate. And so we are trying to protect this. And so the things you have read in the newspapers about the ideas of people who would try to protect this and still try to devise means whereby taller buildings can be built in the near central areas of the city. This is how this scheme was designed, so that the further away you get, the taller they can get without encroaching on the great skyline that we have on the Hill.

I will not go into all the formulae because these are pretty complex. More than that, we do not have the report of the latest consultants engaged by both the city and by ourselves to take a look at this. Relating this to the economics of the city, and this place as the capital, and all the other problems of transportation, circulation, people, business, government, that are significant in the consideration of this problem, I do not know whether I have answered your question.

Mr. Gundlock: Yes. If I may just go a little further—do not answer this if you do not want to—are the problems between you and the municipality great? Is your liaison good?

Mr. Thrift: Liaison is very good. It is in questions of this kind that we see where we may disagree and these are the things that we all hear about a great deal. But the amount of

• 1220

co-operation between the staff of the National Capital Commission and the staff of the City of Ottawa and the staff of other municipal governments in this area is very good. This is the quiet business that goes on and must go on and we have no complaints about this at all.

[*Interprétation*]

même, est celle-ci: les édifices où nous trouvons aujourd'hui font partie d'un héritage, un héritage architectural, un genre de structure, une silhouette d'édifice rare à travers le monde. Beaucoup de gens sont venus ici nous dire: «Nous aimerions beaucoup avoir le genre d'édifice que vous avez.» Ils admirent notre Colline parlementaire, que ce soit de la cour, de la promenade Sussex ou de la pointe Nepean. Ils admirent la silhouette des édifices parlementaires.

Il s'agit d'un des grands ensembles architecturaux du monde. Nous essayons de protéger cet héritage comme symbole du gouvernement et du pays. Le gouvernement d'un pays est tellement important que les symboles doivent être reconnus par tous les Canadiens. Nous essayons de protéger ce symbole. Et l'on a pu lire dans les journaux, que des gens essaient de protéger cet ensemble et en même temps veulent permettre la construction d'édifices très élevés au cœur même de la ville. Notre projet était de voir à ce que les immeubles soient construits de plus en plus hauts à mesure que l'on s'éloigne de la Colline parlementaire afin que le panorama de la Colline parlementaire ne soit pas écrasé par la silhouette des gratte-ciel.

Je n'entrerai pas dans les détails, ils sont complexes, de plus, nous n'avons pas eu le rapport des derniers conseillers engagés par la ville et nous-mêmes pour étudier la question. Considérant les bases de la vie économique de la ville, la fonction de capitale et les autres problèmes de transports et de communications qui affectent ce problème, je ne sais pas si j'ai répondu à votre question.

M. Gundlock: Oui. Je voudrais poursuivre un peu plus loin, vous n'êtes pas obligé d'y répondre, y a-t-il des problèmes importants dans vos rapports avec la municipalité? Est-ce que vous avez de bons rapports avec eux?

M. Thrift: Oui, nos rapports avec la municipalité sont excellents. C'est sur des sujets comme celui-ci que nous pouvons entrer en désaccord et c'est de cela que l'on parle beaucoup. La coopération entre le personnel de la Commission de la Capitale Nationale, le personnel de la ville d'Ottawa et le personnel des autres commissions municipales est excellente. Voici un travail qui s'effectue quotidiennement et on ne nous soumet aucune plainte.

[*Text*]

We get along very well, in spite of some of the news stories, with members of the city council, with the board of control, with the council of the City of Hull or whoever. This is one of the quiet things that we do not talk about and they do not talk about but just must go on and we help to improve it. There are many areas of this kind that we can improve; if our understanding improves, our working arrangements improve.

Mr. Gundlock: What do you do in the case of, shall we say, very serious disagreement with various municipalities, or provinces. What sort of machinery do you use to solve a difference in a serious disagreement? Or is that a fair question?

Mr. Thrift: That is rather direct process of getting together with them and discussing the pros and cons, the various aspects of their and our responsibilities, and of trying to see whether there may be a common way to resolve this problem, which may sometimes look in some respect to be compromise. We have done quite a bit of this, where, through discussion—and sometimes pretty tough discussion—we had to make our points firmly and bluntly. But they do, too. This also brings to each an understanding of the other's position.

We have responsibilities to the Government of Canada and to the Parliament of Canada which are clear, and we make these quite clear. They have responsibilities to their constituents, to the City of Ottawa, or to the City of Hull, or to Lucerne, or whoever. That is fine. We understand what these are. It is a matter of how to make these weld together into something effective.

Mr. Gundlock: What I am trying to ask is whether there is an arbitrator in a difference?

Mr. Thrift: No, we do not have an arbitrator between us. We represent, and act on behalf of, the Government of Canada.

The Chairman: Gentlemen, we will call the witnesses we have here at the start of our next sitting.

You wanted to know in advance who were going to be here. We still start with the NCC, because many members who are not present want to ask questions and the budget is quite large. Therefore, I think it would be a good idea to recall Mr. Thrift and his officers so that we can examine the estimates in more detail.

If we can, we intend to call the Science Council of Canada, the Public Service Staff Relations Board and the Public Service Commission.

[*Interpretation*]

Nous nous entendons très bien, en dépit des histoires des journaux, avec les conseillers, avec le bureau des commissaires, avec le conseil de la ville de Hull ou autre. Nous n'en parlons pas beaucoup ni eux non plus mais le travail se fait. Nous pourrions naturellement voir des améliorations dans ce domaine. Si notre compréhension s'améliore, notre coopération s'améliore.

M. Gundlock: Que faites-vous s'il y a un désaccord très sérieux entre vous-même et les municipalités ou les provinces. Quel genre de procédé utilisez-vous pour résoudre les questions où vous tombez en désaccord? Puis-je me permettre cette question?

M. Thrift: Nous nous réunissons et nous discutons le pour et le contre. Nous discutons des divers aspects de nos responsabilités réciproques et nous essayons de trouver un terrain d'entente, qui a souvent l'air d'un compromis. Ce genre de discussion est assez fréquent et parfois la discussion est assez animée. Il nous a fallu parfois présenter notre position de façon claire et nette; mais eux aussi. Cela permet de connaître les positions réciproques.

Nous avons des responsabilités envers le gouvernement et le Parlement du Canada, et nous essayons de les expliquer très clairement. Ils ont des responsabilités envers leurs électeurs, envers la ville d'Ottawa ou la ville de Hull, ou de Lucerne, etc. Nous comprenons cela. Il s'agit seulement de souder tous ces morceaux en un tout harmonieux.

M. Gundlock: Ce que je voulais savoir c'est s'il y avait un organisme d'arbitrage?

M. Thrift: Non, il n'y a pas d'arbitrage. Nous représentons le gouvernement du Canada.

Le président: Messieurs, les témoins seront entendus au début de notre prochaine séance.

Vous vouliez savoir par qui nous commencerions. Nous commencerons pas la CCN parce qu'il y a beaucoup de députés qui ne sont pas ici présents et qui veulent poser des questions et le budget est assez important. Nous allons donc demander à M. Thrift et à ses fonctionnaires de revenir afin que nous puissions leur poser des questions de détail.

Si nous pouvons, nous examinerons le Conseil des sciences du Canada, la Commission des relations ouvrières dans le service public, et la Commission de la fonction publique.

[*Texte*]

We will try to have those witnesses on the first Tuesday after we come back from the two or three days we will have at Easter.

I thank you very much, Mr. Thrift.

Mr. Thrift: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

The Chairman: I will expect to see you later on.

Mr. Thrift: And we will get notice of this, will we?

The Chairman: You will get notice from Mr. Levesque, the Clerk.

Thank you, gentlemen.

[*Interprétation*]

Nous essayerons d'avoir ces témoins le premier mardi après les deux ou trois jours de congé que nous aurons à Pâques.

Je vous remercie, monsieur Thrift.

M. Thrift: Merci, monsieur le président.

Le président: J'espère que nous vous reverrons.

M. Thrift: Nous en serons avisé n'est-ce pas?

Le président: Vous recevrez une note du greffier M. Levesque. Merci, messieurs.

OFFICIAL BILINGUAL ISSUE

HOUSE OF COMMONS

First Session

Twenty-eighth Parliament, 1968-69

FASCICULE BILINGUE OFFICIEL

CHAMBRE DES COMMUNES

Première session de la

vingt-huitième législature, 1968-1969

STANDING COMMITTEE ON

MISCELLANEOUS ESTIMATES

COMITÉ PERMANENT DES

PRÉVISIONS BUDGÉTAIRES EN GÉNÉRAL

Chairman M. Fernand E. Leblanc *Président*

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS AND EVIDENCE

PROCÈS-VERBAUX ET TÉMOIGNAGES

No. 14

TUESDAY, APRIL 15, 1969

LE MARDI 15 AVRIL 1969

Respecting

The item listed in the Main Estimates 1969-70, relating to the Science Council of Canada.

Concernant

Le poste énuméré au budget principal de 1969-1970, concernant le Conseil des Sciences du Canada.

WITNESSES—TÉMOINS

(See Minutes of Proceedings)

(Voir Procès-verbaux)

THE QUEEN'S PRINTER, OTTAWA, 1969
L'IMPRIMEUR DE LA REINE, OTTAWA, 1969

29989—1

STANDING COMMITTEE
ON
MISCELLANEOUS ESTIMATES

COMITÉ PERMANENT
DES
PRÉVISIONS BUDGÉTAIRES
EN GÉNÉRAL

Chairman: M. Fernand-E. Leblanc — *Président.*
Vice-Chairman: M. Aurélien Noël — *Vice-président.*

and Messrs. — et MM.

Alkenbrack,
[28] Cafik,
Clermont,
[29] Cullen,
[27] Dinsdale,
Dumont,
Goode,
[25] Gundlock,
LeBlanc (*Rimouski*),
Mather,
Paproski,
Peddle,
Penner,
[26] Ricard,
Robinson,
Rochon,
Roy (*Timmins*),
Thomson (*Battleford-Kindersley*)—20.

Le secrétaire du Comité,
D. E. Levesque
Clerk of the Committee.

Pursuant to S.O. 65(4)(*b*)

[25] Replaced Mr. Hales on April 14, 1969
[26] Replaced Mr. Lambert (*Edmonton West*) on April 14, 1969
[27] Replaced Mr. McCutcheon on April 14, 1969
[28] Replaced Mr. Guay (*Lévis*) on April 15, 1969
[29] Replaced Mr. Crossman on April 15, 1969

Conformément à l'article 65(4)*b*) du Règlement

[25] Remplace M. Hales le 14 avril 1969
[26] Remplace M. Lambert (*Edmonton-Ouest*) le 14 avril 1969
[27] Remplace M. McCutcheon le 14 avril 1969
[28] Remplace M. Guay (*Lévis*) le 15 avril 1969
[29] Remplace M. Crossman le 15 avril 1969

[*Text*]

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

TUESDAY, April 15, 1969.
(15)

The Standing Committee on Miscellaneous Estimates met this day at 3:40 p.m., the Chairman, Mr. Fernand Leblanc, presiding.

Members present: Messrs. Alkenbrack, Clermont, Cullen, Dinsdale, Gundlock, LeBlanc (*Laurier*), Mather, Paproski, Penner, Ricard, Robinson, Rochon.—(12)

Also present: Messrs. Francis and Isabelle, Members of Parliament.

Witness: From the Science Council of Canada: Dr. P. D. MacTaggart-Cowan, Executive Director.

The Chairman called item 20 ($1,300,000.) of the Main Estimates 1969-70, relating to the Science Council of Canada and introduced the witness.

At 4:30 p.m., the questioning of the witness continuing, the Committee adjourned to 3:30 p.m., Thursday, April 17, 1969.

[*Texte*]

PROCÈS-VERBAL

LE MARDI 15 avril 1969
(15)

Le Comité permanent des prévisions budgétaires en général se réunit à 3 h. 40 de l'après-midi, sous la présidence de M. Fernand Leblanc, président.

Présents: MM. Alkenbrack, Clermont, Cullen, Dinsdale, Gundlock, Leblanc (Laurier), Mather, Paproski, Penner, Ricard, Robinson, Rochon—12.

De même que: MM. Francis et Isabelle, députés.

Témoins: Dr. P. D. MacTaggart-Cowan, Directeur Exécutif du Conseil des sciences du Canada.

Le président met à l'étude le poste n° 20 ($1,300,000.), du budget des dépenses 1969-1970, relatif au Conseil des sciences du Canada et présente le témoin.

A 4 h. 30, comme l'interrogatoire du témoin se prolonge, le Comité s'ajourne jusqu'à jeudi le 17 avril 1969.

Le secrétaire du Comité,
D. E. Levesque,
Clerk of the Committee.

29989—1½

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

(15)

The Standing Committee on Miscellaneous Estimates met this day at 3:40 p.m., the Chairman, Mr. Fernand Leblanc, presiding.

Members present: Messrs. Alkenbrack, Clermont, Cullen, Dinsdale, Gundlock, Leblanc (Laurier), Mather, Paproski, Pennell, Ricard, Robinson, Rochon—(12)

Also present: Messrs. Francis and Isabelle, Members of Parliament.

Witness: From the Science Council of Canada: Dr. P. D. MacTaggart-Cowan, Executive Director.

The Chairman called item 20 ($31,300,000) of the Main Estimates 1969-70, relating to the Science Council of Canada and introduced the witness.

At 4:30 p.m., the questioning of the witness continuing, the Committee adjourned to 3:30 p.m., Thursday, April 17, 1969.

Clerk of the Committee.

PROCÈS-VERBAL

(15)

Le Comité permanent des prévisions budgétaires en général se réunit à 3 h. 40 de l'après-midi, sous la présidence de M. Fernand Leblanc, président.

Présents: MM. Alkenbrack, Clermont, Cullen, Dinsdale, Gundlock, Leblanc (Laurier), Mather, Paproski, Pennell, Ricard, Robinson, Rochon—12.

Aussi présents: MM. Francis et Isabelle, députés.

Témoins: Dr. P. D. MacTaggart-Cowan, Directeur Exécutif du Conseil des sciences du Canada.

Le président met à l'étude le poste n° 20 ($31,300,000) du Budget des dépenses 1969-1970, relatif au Conseil des sciences du Canada et présente le témoin.

A 4 h. 30, compte tenu de l'interrogatoire du témoin, poursuivi, le Comité s'ajourne jusqu'à jeudi le 17 avril 1969.

Le secrétaire du Comité,
D. E. Levesque.

[*Texte*]

EVIDENCE

(*Recorded by Electronic Apparatus*)

Tuesday, April 15, 1969

• 1538

The Chairman: Gentlemen, I wish to bid you welcome this afternoon. The agenda of this afternoon has been changed a little on account of having a few witnesses who have other meetings somewhere else, including Montreal, and they have to take the afternoon plane. So if you do not mind, if it is agreeable to you, we will start with Vote 20 relating to the Science Council of Canada.

We have as witnesses Dr. P. D. MacTaggart-Cowan, Executive Director, and Mr. D. Hunka, Chief of Administration. Dr. MacTaggart-Cowan is going to make a brief statement on his estimates.

Dr. P. D. MacTaggart-Cowan (Executive Director, Science Council of Canada): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I am most grateful to you and your colleagues for taking us out of order and I apologize for my voice. I have a good old-fashioned cold and I cannot get it any higher than it is at the moment.

The Science Council became a Crown corporation on April 1 as part of the general reorganization, so that this is the first year in which we have been able to present self-contained estimates. From 1966 when the Council was formed till the present time we were really a part of the Privy Council Office as far as the staff and general budgetary provisions were concerned. While I will do my best to answer any questions about prior years' expenditures, I am afraid I cannot give complete answers.

The Science Council itself has a part-time chairman, Dr. O. M. Solandt, one of Canada's distinguished scientists, and a part-time vice-chairman, Dr. Roger Gaudry, who is the Rector of the University of Montreal, and 25 members chosen from among the scientific community in Canada both because of their distinguished records and because of their various interests to try to get a balance of discipline, area and interest; and four associate members chosen from the special officers in the Public Service.

The Council as of April 1 is supported by a small staff of which I am the Executive Director. Mr. Hunka is the Chief Administra-

[*Interprétation*]

TÉMOIGNAGES

(*Enregistrement électronique*)

Le mardi 15 avril 1969

Le président: Messieurs, je vous souhaite la bienvenue cet après-midi. L'ordre du jour a été modifié, car il y a quelques témoins qui ont d'autres réunions ailleurs, notamment à Montréal, et ils doivent prendre l'avion cet après-midi. Si vous le voulez, nous allons voir le crédit 20 sur le Conseil des Sciences du Canada.

Nous avons avec nous M. P. D. MacTaggart-Cowan, directeur exécutif, et M. D. Hunka qui est le directeur de l'administration. M. MacTaggart-Cowan nous présentera une déclaration au sujet de ses prévisions.

Dr P. D. MacTaggart-Cowan (Directeur exécutif, Conseil des Sciences du Canada): Merci, monsieur le président. Je vous suis reconnaissant de m'avoir permis de prendre la parole malgré l'ordre déjà fixé, et je m'excuse, car j'ai un bon rhume et ma voix est très basse.

Le Conseil des Sciences est devenu une société de la Couronne le premier avril, et ceci fait partie de la réorganisation générale du gouvernement. C'est la première année où nous avons pu présenter des prévisions. Depuis 1966, époque où le Conseil a été créé, jusqu'à maintenant, nous faisions partie du bureau du Conseil privé, et notre personnel et nos crédits étaient inscrits à ce chapitre. Je ferai donc de mon mieux pour répondre aux questions concernant les années antérieures. Je ne pourrai pas toutefois donner des réponses complètes, je crains.

M. O. M. Solandt a été président à temps partiel, et le vice-président à temps partiel était M. Roger Gaudry, qui est maintenant recteur de l'Université de Montréal. Il y a 25 membres qui ont été choisis parmi les scientifiques canadiens, vu leur prestige dans divers domaines et l'intérêt qu'ils ont manifesté dans les diverses disciplines scientifiques pour équilibrer les intérêts.

Quatre membres associés ont été choisis parmi les hauts fonctionnaires de la Fonction publique.

Le Conseil au 1er avril avait un personnel peu nombreux: j'en suis le directeur administratif. M. Hunka est l'administrateur en chef

[*Text*]

tive Officer and we have, broadly speaking, 16 scientists and the necessary support staff.

The work divides itself into three main areas; one is an on-going study and articulation of the hard core of a science policy. This is perhaps more simply described as a frame of reference against which governments can make intelligent choices on how best to use science and technology to reach the social and economic goals of the country and to solve the social and economic problems. Certainly because our over-all directive is to maintain and assess in a comprehensive manner the science and technological resources, requirements, potentials and long-term needs, we carry out special studies in areas within science and technology where there seems to be either existing or potential imbalance, or where the area of science really has lost its forward goals.

We may spot this ourselves, it may be drawn to our attention in a variety of ways, or the scientists that represent that part of the scientific community may come to us and say, "We think we are out of balance; we do not know where we should be going 20 years from now. Will you please have a look at us?"

If I may use an example, we are now doing a study in depth of marine sciences, a multidiscipline area of considerable importance to Canada because of the offshore resources, both marine and geological.

The scientists in that area came to us last November and said that they thought this area was out of balance, that there was insufficient emphasis in the physics and chemistry of the oceans to support the biological research that was now going on and therefore that biologists would run out of supporting answers. The study of physics is also of considerable importance if you are thinking of navigation in ice infested waters. They felt also that they had lost their long-term goals; they did not have a clear idea of where the emphasis should be in the next 20 years. So the Science Council of Canada is doing a study in depth of the field and we hope to come up with some good recommendations to the Prime Minister and to the scientific community as to the balance and the future.

The third and final role is what I am busy about in Montreal today. We call it major programs. The kind of major program that is used as an example almost all around the world is the American man-on-the-moon budget, which was bred of the cold war and Sputnik. The Americans had to react to maintain their position in the cold war so they said they were going to put a man on the moon. That became a major program that has

[*Interpretation*]

et, en général, nous avons seize scientifiques et le personnel de soutien nécessaire.

Le travail se répartit en trois secteurs: d'abord, l'étude et l'élaboration d'une politique scientifique de base. Il s'agit simplement de cadres dans lesquels le gouvernement établit ses choix en matière d'utilisation des techniques afin d'atteindre les buts économiques et sociaux du Canada et de résoudre les problèmes économiques et sociaux du pays.

Assurément, vu que notre mandat général est de maintenir et d'évaluer en détail les ressources, les exigences, les possibilités et les besoins à long terme des sciences et des techniques, nous faisons des études spéciales en matière de techniques et de sciences, dans les domaines où il semble y avoir le déséquilibre ou cause possible de déséquilibre, ou là où la science a perdu son initiative.

Nous constatons ces faits nous-mêmes, ou parfois on nous y intéresse de diverses manières; parfois les scientifiques qui représentent un certain domaine nous demandent de les orienter, car ils ont perdu de vue leurs objectifs.

Voici un exemple: nous faisons actuellement une étude sur les sciences de la mer; ceci ouvre de nombreuses disciplines et a une importance primordiale, vu les ressources marines et géologiques qui gisent au large de nos côtes.

Les scientifiques de ce secteur sont venus nous trouver en novembre dernier pour nous dire qu'ils croyaient que ce secteur était déséquilibré, qu'on n'insistait pas assez sur la chimie et la physique des mers pour appuyer la recherche en cours dans le domaine de la biologie et que les biologistes épuiseraient dans leurs réponses de soutien. Les études de physique sont tout à fait importantes si l'on songe à naviguer dans les glaces. Ils avaient aussi l'impression d'avoir perdu leurs buts à long terme, ils ne savaient pas très bien ce qui sera important dans 20 ans. Le Conseil des sciences du Canada mène une étude approfondie dans ce domaine afin d'arriver à présenter de bonnes recommandations au premier ministre et au monde scientifique quant à l'équilibre et aux perspectives d'avenir.

Notre troisième et dernier rôle est justement ce qui m'occupe à Montréal. Il s'agit de programmes importants. Le type de programme important qui sert d'exemple est évidemment le budget des Américains pour mettre un homme sur la lune, qui est le fruit de la guerre froide et du Sputnik. Les Américains ont dû réagir pour maintenir leur position dans la guerre froide, et ils ont décidé qu'un de leurs citoyens débarquerait sur la lune. Ce

[*Texte*]

stimulated science and technology. It is a very broad area in the United States and I think it derived quite substantial indirect economic benefits.

It is a good example in one way—in that a major program that catches the national

• 1545

imagination is not always a useful one. I do not think anybody can say that putting a man on the moon is *a priori* a useful thing to do. It is exciting, but the indirect benefits are the ones that perhaps will stand the test of time. Most of the major programs that the world has known—in France they are called "actions concertées"—have been bred of war or near-war conditions because this is the time you can get the public concerned about doing something fast and large enough to stimulate a major portion of the economy.

To my knowledge, from my personal experience, there has been only one major program built of entirely peacetime conditions and that was when the British Government around 1931-32, during the depression, said they were going to fly the mail to all corners of the Commonwealth in order to pull the Commonwealth together.

It was one of those things that the government of the United Kingdom at that time stated as a goal. It caught the public imagination—we did not have the airplanes to do it; we did not have the communications; we did not have the operating experience; in my field of meteorology we certainly did not know enough about meteorology over the oceans to do it safely but there it was: it was enunciated, it caught the public imagination and people were willing to tackle the problems and get them resolved.

As you know, in 1937 we did successfully fly the Atlantic as a straight commercial endeavour. I had the good fortune of being part of it and I must say it was exciting. And it moved us, I would say conservatively, 15 years ahead of where we would have been, technologically, if that goal had not been set.

Part of the role of the Science Council of Canada is to see if in the present peacetime conditions we can find one or two of this type of program that belongs in Canada because I think the application of science and technology is the way to stimulate a tremendous amount of industrial development.

At the present time we have just started to look at two areas. One is in urban development, because the amounts of money that are going to be spent over the next several years as recorded in the Task Force report are very substantial, and the challenge is to see wheth-

[*Interprétation*]

programme est devenu important parce qu'il encourage les sciences et la technologie. C'est un très vaste secteur aux États-Unis et je crois qu'il en est découlé des avantages économiques indirects considérables.

C'est un bon exemple d'une certaine façon, qu'un programme important qui suscite l'imagination de la population n'est pas toujours un programme utile. Personne ne peut dire que le fait de faire débarquer un homme sur la lune est quelque chose d'utile. C'est excitant, mais ce qui en restera ce sont les avantages indirects. La plupart des grands programmes que le monde a connus, on les appelle des actions concertées en France, ont découlé des problèmes de guerre, car c'est dans de telles situations qu'on peut amener les gens à agir rapidement et mettre sur pied des programmes suffisamment importants pour activer l'économie.

Que je sache et d'après mon expérience personnelle, il n'y a eu qu'un seul programme qui a été suscité par une situation de paix, et ce fut lorsque le gouvernement britannique, vers 1931-1932, au cours de la crise économique a décidé d'assurer un service de courrier par avion à tous les pays du Commonwealth afin de grouper le Commonwealth. C'est une initiative que le gouvernement du Royaume-Uni s'est fixée comme but. Elle a suscité l'intérêt public. Nous n'avions pas les avions, ni les communications, ni l'expérience ni les connaissances météorologiques—nous n'en savions sûrement pas assez en matière de météorollogie pour le faire en toute sécurité—mais nous étions confrontés par le problème, on avait mentionné le projet et il avait suscité l'intérêt public. Les gens étaient prêts à s'attaquer aux problèmes et les résoudre.

Comme vous le savez, nous avons réussi à traverser l'Atlantique à des fins purement commerciales en 1937. J'ai eu la chance de participer à ce programme, et je dois dire que c'était un travail très excitant. Et je pense que du point de vue technologique, nous avons progressé d'au moins 15 ans grâce à un projet.

Le Conseil des sciences du Canada a pour rôle de voir si dans la situation actuelle de paix nous pouvons trouver un ou deux programmes de ce genre qui appartiennent au Canada car je crois que l'application de la science et de la technologie est une façon de stimuler énormément le développement industriel.

Pour l'heure, nous envisageons deux secteurs. Le premier c'est le développement urbain à cause des sommes d'argent qu'on y consacrera au cours des prochaines années, comme il est indiqué dans le rapport du groupe d'étude, et le défi qui se pose, c'est de

[*Text*]

er science and technology—and this includes the social siences—has something to say which would make the money, which is going to be spent anyway, spent more wisely, I would expect more frugally, and certainly more imaginatively, so that the urban sprawl is contained and something that is socially more desirable emerges. This is one area that has many of the features of a major program; we are looking at it to see if in fact it is one. The other is in the broad areas of transportation.

These, Mr. Chairman, are the fields of endeavour of the Science Council of Canada. We lean heavily on external consultants and on the voluntary participation of the leaders in the various fields of science, so that the professional staff in the estimates now of 16, plus a librarian, is about where I think we should be for several years providing we can continue to draw from the forefront of the areas of science and technology the people we need for the short periods to do the intensive studies.

The Chairman: Thank you, Dr. MacTaggart-Cowan. You know that we are studying the Science Council of Canada, Vote 20 on page 296, and the details are shown on page 300. The entire amount of the estimates is $1,300,000. Have you any questions? Mr. Robinson, then Mr. Cullen.

Mr. Robinson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I note that the increase over last year is over 400 per cent and this is for the special studies and major programs. Is this going to go up, in this astronomical percentage, in the next few years? Is this anticipated, or is a sort of levelling-out anticipated?

Dr. MacTaggart-Cowan: Mr. Chairman, the real increase is very minor, and I am sorry I cannot tell you what it was. Last year most of the money which supported the special studies and the operating staff of the Council was in the Privy Council office budget and not shown against the Science Council at all.

Last year, 1968-69, there was $435,000 of direct payment from the Privy Council office in support of special studies, but I have not been able to extract what the ancillary staff costs were; so that is a partial vote.

[*Interpretation*]

savoir si la science et la technologie, ce qui comprend également les sciences sociales, pourront avoir leur mot à dire pour que l'argent qui sera dépensé de toute façon soit dépensé peut-être plus sagement, et, je suppose, avec plus de parcimonie, et, en tout cas, en faisant preuve de plus d'imagination de sorte que le développement urbain soit organisé et permette à des choses qui sont plus souhaitables au point de vue social de surgir. C'est un des secteurs qui présente un bon nombre des caractéristiques d'une action concertée. Nous étudions ce problème pour voir si c'est vraiment le cas. L'autre secteur est celui du vaste problème des transports.

Monsieur le président, voici les domaines que nous étudions au Conseil des sciences du Canada. Nous nous fions beaucoup aux conseillers de l'extérieur et à la participation volontaire des chefs de file des différents domaines scientifiques, de telle sorte que notre personnel professionnel est présentement de 16 personnes, plus une bibliothécaire. Je pense que nous pourrons nous en tenir à cela pour quelques années à condition qu'on nous permette de continuer à faire appel aux meilleures compétences des domaines scientifiques et obtenir les personnes dont nous avons besoin durant de courtes périodes pour réaliser nos études de fond.

Le président: Merci, monsieur MacTaggart-Cowan. Vous savez que nous sommes à étudier le crédit 20 à la page 296 du Conseil des Sciences du Canada. Les détails paraissent à la page 300. La somme totale des crédits s'élève à $1,300,000. Avez-vous des questions? M. Robinson et M. Cullen.

M. Robinson: Je constate, monsieur le président, que l'augmentation par rapport à l'année dernière est de plus de 400 p. 100, et que les fonds sont destinés aux études spéciales et aux grands programmes. Est-ce qu'il y aura une telle augmentation astronomique au cours des prochaines années, ou s'il y aura une stabilisation?

M. MacTaggart-Cowan: Monsieur le président, l'augmentation véritable est peu considérable, et je m'excuse de ne pas pouvoir vous dire de quel ordre elle est. L'année dernière la plupart des crédits consacrés aux études spéciales et au personnel d'exploitation du Conseil n'étaient pas portés aux crédits du Conseil mais bien aux crédits du Conseil privé.

L'année dernière, soit 1968-1969, le Conseil privé a versé $490,000 en paiements directs aux études spéciales, mais nous n'avons pas pu savoir ce que coûtait le personnel du Conseil, de sorte qu'il s'agit d'un crédit partiel.

[*Texte*]

Mr. Robinson: In view of the fact that we do not have the specifics for 1968-69, could you tell us, generally, what is the increase in cost for your estimate for 1970?

Dr. MacTaggart-Cowan: The special studies' amount, 1968-96, Science Council and Science Secretariat, that we have been able to identify is $812,900, but that includes none of the staff salaries.

The problem there is that until April 1, when we became a Crown corporation, the staff was shared between the Science Secretariat and the Science Council. I arrived on the scene in the middle of September last, and there was a general division of staff from November 1; but prior to that who did what and what portion of their salary was charged on which side of the ledger, I am sorry, I have not been able to dig out.

Mr. Robinson: I would assume, then, that we will not have a true picture of this until the 1971 estimates, and then we will have some comparisons?

Dr. MacTaggart-Cowan: Yes. I would think, Mr. Chairman, that there has really been no increase, but that is just an educated assertion. I cannot give you the figures.

Mr. Robinson: You have indicated that you have 16 scientists, and that they are interested not only in the physicial sciences but in the social sciences. Could you give us a breakdown of the number of so-called physical scientists and the number of social scientists? In other words, what are their specific fields of endeavour in the Science Council.

Dr. MacTaggart-Cowan: Yes, Mr. Chairman; running through the staff that is on strength at the present time—because we do not have the full complement of staff yet—there is Dr. Jackson, a physicist who came from Industry. He was director of the lab at RCA. There is a Dr. Maasland, a hydrologist, who came to us from the university; Mr. Cass-Beggs, who was at one time the chairman of the Saskatchewan power and hydro commission, and came to us from Expo; he is an engineer; Dr. Cordell, an economist, who came to us from General Foods; Dr. Bourgault, a physicist, who came to us from an industrial research lab in Toronto; Dr. Macpherson, who is a wildlife biologist on loan to us from the federal wildlife service; and he has just returned to wildlife; and we

[*Interprétation*]

M. Robinson: Étant donné que nous n'avons pas de détails pour l'année 1968-1969, je me demande si vous pouvez nous dire, d'une façon générale, quelle est l'augmentation des coûts dans vos prévisions pour 1970?

M. MacTaggart-Cowan: Le coût des études spéciales, pour 1968-1969, le Conseil des sciences du Canada et le Secrétariat des sciences, que nous avons pu identifier est de $812,000 et ceci comprend aucun traitement du personnel.

Le problème est que jusqu'au 1er avril, alors que nous sommes devenus une Société de la Couronne, nous partagions notre personnel avec le Secrétariat des sciences et le Conseil des sciences. Je suis arrivé en septembre dernier, et il y eut une division du personnel à compter du 1er novembre; mais avant cela nous ne savions pas très bien partager les fonctions et les salaires qui étaient facturés à l'un ou l'autre compte, et je m'excuse de ne pas avoir ces renseignements.

M. Robinson: Je suppose que nous ne connaîtrons pas vraiment cette situation avant d'établir les crédits de l'année prochaine et nous pourrons alors comparer.

M. MacTaggart-Cowan: Oui. Je crois, monsieur le président, qu'il n'y a pas vraiment eu d'augmentation, mais ce n'est qu'une opinion. Je ne peux pas fournir de chiffres.

M. Robinson: Vous avez dit que vous avez 16 scientifiques et qu'ils s'intéressaient non seulement aux sciences physiques, mais aussi aux sciences sociales. Pourriez-vous nous dire combien il y a de spécialistes des sciences physiques et de spécialistes des sciences sociales? Autrement dit, quels sont leurs domaines d'activité dans le Conseil des sciences?

M. MacTaggart-Cowan: Si l'on étudie la liste du personnel actuel, car notre personnel n'est pas encore complet, il y a M. Jackson, un physicien qui vient du ministère de l'Industrie et qui était directeur de laboratoire à la RCA; M. Maasland, un hydrologiste, qui vient de l'université, M. Coss-Beggs, qui à un certain moment était président de la Saskatchewan Hydro and Power Commission et qui vient de l'Expo; il est ingénieur. M. Cordell, un économiste qui travaillait pour la société *General Foods*; M. Bourgault, un physicien, qui vient d'un laboratoire de recherches industrielles de Toronto; M. Macpherson, un zoologiste qui nous est prêté par le service de la faune du gouvernement fédéral et qui vient de retourner à ce service; et nous avons M. Stevens qui était autrefois le directeur régio-

[*Text*]

have a Dr. Stephens who was the regional director of the wildlife lab in Edmonton, who is joining us here.

There is Dr. C. H. Smith, a geologist, on secondment from Energy, Mines and Resources for a year; and Mr. Wilson, an engineer and an economist, with a double degree, has joined us from the Economic Council of Canada.

Dr. Voyer, a chemist, joined us from an industrial lab; and we have coming in this summer a Dr. Kaufman, a mathematician, on a one-year secondment from McGill. He is a mathematician specializing in computer and information theories. These last three are all on one-year secondments, and I can say a word about this if you are interested, sir, because I believe in this kind of staffing.

• 1555

We have Dr. Sauer, who is from the University of Waterloo, whose research has been in the sociology of science, so that he is quite centrally concerned; and Dr. Krus, a chemist from Carleton University. Both are coming in on secondment this year.

To add that up, I am one light. I am looking for a manpower economist who also has a science background. That is a tough position to fill.

I think this concern about the supply and demand in highly trained manpower and the number of foreign students in our graduate schools is something that needs to have some light shed on it. A lot of questions are being asked, for which we do not have answers, and I know there are questions that have not yet been answered that should be, and we want to be in the position that when they are asked we have the answers.

Mr. Robinson: But I assume that the number envolved and the specific fields of endeavour would change as your projects change?

Dr. MacTaggart Cowan: Dr. Jackson and Mr. Wilson are working on the hard core of science policy and there there is a whole body of existing literature. It is the sort of science of science. I would expect them to be with us for some years. Most of the rest of the staff, I think, should be with us for two, three, perhaps four years, or even shorter—perhaps one or two years—depending on the discipline and the mix, and will then get back into the front line of the science from which they were drawn.

Mr. Robinson: You have indicated that some of the people are seconded from their present job for a period of one year. Is this for one year only?

[*Interpretation*]

nal du laboratoire de la faune à Edmonton, et qui est ici.

Il y a M. Smith, un géologue, qui est détaché du ministère de l'Énergie, des Mines et des Ressources, pour un an; M. Wilson, ingénieur et économiste, qui est venu se joindre à nous et qui était auparavant au Conseil économique du Canada.

Il y a M. Voyer, un chimiste et qui nous vient d'un laboratoire industriel; et cet été, nous aurons M. Kaufman, un mathématicien, qui vient de l'Université McGill; il nous est prêté pour deux ans et spécialiste des ordinateurs et de l'informatique. Les trois personnes précédentes nous sont prêtées pour un an, et je peux dire un mot à ce sujet si cela vous intéresse, car je crois vraiment à ce genre de recrutement. M. Sauer, est sociologue et vient

de l'Université de Waterloo et a fait des recherches sur la sociologie des sciences, de sorte qu'il joue un rôle central; et M. Krus, un chimiste, de l'Université Carleton. Ces deux derniers nous seront prêtés cette année.

En somme, il nous manque une personne. Je cherche un économiste en main-d'œuvre et qui a également travaillé dans le domaine scientifique. C'est un poste difficile à pourvoir.

Je crois qu'il faut suivre la loi de l'offre et de la demande pour le personnel très spécialisé et le nombre d'étudiants étrangers dans nos universités est une question qu'il faudrait étudier. Bon nombre de questions ont été poéses à ce sujet et on n'a pas encore trouvé de réponse, et je sais qu'il faudrait trouver la réponse, et nous espérons nous trouver dans la situation de pouvoir donner la réponse si on nous pose ces questions.

M. Robinson: Dois-je conclure que le nombre de personnes en cause et les secteurs d'intérêt changeront au fur et à mesure que vos projets changeront?

M. MacTaggart-Cowan: M. Jackson et M. Wilson travaillent au cœur même de la politique scientifique et c'est un secteur où il existe beaucoup de documentation. C'est comme une science des sciences. Je crois qu'ils seront avec nous assez longtemps. Les autres seront avec nous pendant deux, trois ou peut-être quatre ans, ou même pour des périodes plus courtes, selon la discipline et la demande, et retourneront ensuite renflouer les rangs de la discipline d'où ils ont été tirés.

M. Robinson: Vous avez dit que certains de ces scientifiques sont détachés pour une période d'un an. Est-ce que c'est seulement un an.

[*Texte*]

Dr. MacTaggart-Cowan: Yes; I am breaking new ground with the universities. I want to take just one step at a time, but I feel that the universities have quite a number of good people who can make an input here who would not want to make a career of it. Their first love is their academic teaching, but they can make a real contribution and cannot be bought for money. I try to work out satisfactory arrangements wtih the universities so that they second them to us for one, two, or three years, depending on how we arrange it, and we reimburse the universities one hundred cents on their out-of-pocket dollar and nobody loses financially. The man comes to us at his university salary but remains on the university staff for fringe benefits, and so on. The administration is simple, and the man's carreer is protected back at the university.

On this basis I think I can get some of the best people in Canada out of the universities for one or two years, and we have three good ones coming in this time. But as they need a look at us so we want to test it ourselves, and I negotiate it on a one-year basis to start with.

But I have talked with the university heads and if we need a second year this can be negotiated.

• 1600

Mr. Robinson: Are you suggesting that it involves no additional cost to the Government of Canada to employ these specialists other than merely paying the rate they are receiving in their present appointments?

Dr. MacTaggart-Cowan: We pay on their moving, or on any travelling they do when they are with us. Of course, that we take for granted.

Mr. Robinson: I am thinking primarily of salary—that they are paid exactly the same.

Dr. MacTaggart-Cowan: They are paid exactly what they would have been paid had they stayed at the university.

Mr. Robinson: You have mentioned that there are two areas in particular that you wish to get involved in, one, being urban development and the other transportation. Would I assume from this that this will require an expansion of your present staff

[*Interprétation*]

M. MacTaggart-Cowan: Oui. Il s'agit d'une nouvelle façon de procéder avec les universités. Il faut procéder par étapes mais je crois que les universités ont un certain nombre de bons éléments qui peuvent contribuer quelque chose, sans vouloir en faire une carrière. Ils sont d'abord professeurs avant tout, mais ils peuvent apporter une contribution précieuse, et il est impossible de les acheter pour aucune somme d'argent.

J'essaie de conclure des accords raisonnables avec les universités de façon à ce qu'ils nous soient prêtés pour un an, deux ans ou trois ans, selon l'entente, et nous remboursons ensuite les universités complètement. Personne n'y perd au point de vue financier. La personne nous vient de ces universitaires au même salaire mais il fait toujours partie du personnel de l'université quant aux avantages marginaux, et ainsi de suite. C'est assez simple au point de vue administratif et leur carrière à l'université est protégée. Nous pouvons ainsi nous assurer les services des meilleures compétences du Canada en les empruntant des Universités pour un an ou deux, et nous en avons trois bons qui viennent en ce moment. Mais ils veulent d'abord connaître notre organisation et nous voulons les connaître d'avantage également. C'est pourquoi j'ai négocié l'accord sur une base annuelle pour l'instant.

Mais j'ai parlé avec l'administration des universités en cause, et si nous avons besoin d'une autre année, nous pourrons négocier de nouveau.

M. Robinson: Est-ce que vous laissez entendre qu'il n'en coûte pas plus cher au gouvernement du Canada d'employer ces spécialistes en leur versant simplement le traitement qu'ils touchent actuellement à l'université?

M. MacTaggart-Cowan: Il y a la question du voyage et du déménagement, que nous défrayons. Ce n'est que juste.

M. Robinson: Mais je songe surtout aux salaires. Ils reçoivent exactement le même salaire.

M. MacTaggart-Cowan: Ils reçoivent exactement le même salaire qu'ils recevaient à l'université.

M. Robinson: Vous avez mentionné qu'il y a deux domaines en particulier qui nous intéressent: le développement urbain et le transport. Dois-je supposer qu'il faudra augmenter votre personnel actuel en obtenant des spécialistes de ces deux domaines?

[*Text*]

with specialists being drawn from both these fields?

Dr. MacTaggart-Cowan: No, sir. We do a good part of the work under contract. Let me talk first about urban development. The member of the continuing staff assigned to that is Dr. Maasland who is a hydrologist but has considerable interest in urban development. The committee, which are doing most of the thinking, are drawn widely from the forefront of knowledge in the field. We have among the members of the committee Dr. Dansereau of the University of Montreal, one of Canada's outstanding ecologists as chairman, we have people like Arthur Erickson, the architect from Vancouver, Mr. Teron, the developer from Ottawa; and Mr. Sherwood, the President of the New Brunswick Housing Corporation. This kind of person will come and donate his time. We naturally cover their travel costs. But if we do the staff work to make their meeting fruitful they will come without consulting fees. There will be special areas which they will identify and into which we will have to go in depth—and where there is no in-house competence we will identify the man that can do that job best and fastest and offer him a fixed price contract to do it quickly.

Mr. Robinson: Are you suggesting that for some of the programs the government would be involved in you have your special scientists set up but if you do run seminars and invite other specialists to comment or to be source people there are no consulting fees paid?

Dr. MacTaggart-Cowan: If they are a member of the committee that is charged with doing the study on this area, then we do not pay consulting fees to them. If they are called in for consultation and then asked to write up something for the committee, then they would be paid a consulting fee.

Mr. Robinson: You differentiated between members of the Science Council and associate members who are members of the public service. Do I understand, since you have indicated that one or two of these people are on loan from various government departments, that they would be the associate members?

Dr. MacTaggart-Cowan: No, sir. The staff I ran through were the staff of the Council, not the Council members themselves.

[*Interpretation*]

M. MacTaggart-Cowan: Non. Nous faisons une bonne partie du travail sous contrat. Permettez-moi de parler tout d'abord du développement urbain. Le membre du personnel permanent qui y a été affecté est M. Maasland qui est un hydrologiste, mais qui s'intéresse beaucoup au développement urbain. Le comité, qui s'occupe de la plus grande partie de l'élaboration, est composé de ceux qui sont à l'avant-garde des connaissances dans ce domaine. Nous avons parmi les membres du comité le Dr Dansereau de l'Université de Montréal qui est un des écologues les plus éminents du Canada comme président, nous avons Arthur Erickson, un architecte de Vancouver, M. Teron qui s'occupe d'urbanisme à Ottawa, M. Sherwood, président de la New Brunswick Housing Corporation. Les gens viendront et nous donneront de leur temps. Bien entendu, nous payons leur déplacement, mais si nous faisons le travail préalable qui rendra leur réunion fructueuse, ils viendront sans demander d'honoraires d'experts-conseils. Il y aura certains domaines qu'ils identifieront et qu'il nous faudra étudier à fond, et s'il n'y a pas de personne compétente sur place, nous trouverons la personne qui peut faire le travail le mieux et le plus rapidement et lui offrirons un contrat à prix fixe pour le faire rapidement.

M. Robinson: Voulez-vous dire que pour certains programmes du gouvernement, vous avez des scientifiques spéciaux qui s'occupent de la question, mais que si vous tenez des colloques et invitez d'autres spécialistes pour faire des commentaires ou fournir des renseignements d'experts, il n'y a pas d'honoraires d'experts-conseils?

M. MacTaggart-Cowan: S'il s'agit d'un membre du comité chargé de l'étude dans ce domaine, nous ne leur en payons pas. Si on les fait venir pour des consultations et qu'on leur demande de rédiger quelque chose pour le comité, alors on leur paiera des honoraires.

M. Robinson: Vous établissez une différence entre les membres du Conseil des sciences et le membres associés qui font partie de la fonction publique. Si je comprends bien, puisque vous avez dit que une ou deux de ces personnes étaient prêtées par des ministères de l'État, que ce sont celles-là qui sont les membres associés?

M. MacTaggart-Cowan: Non. Le personnel dont j'ai parlé est celui du Conseil. Il ne s'agit pas des membres du Conseil mêmes.

[*Texte*]

Mr. Robinson: I understand that.

Dr. MacTaggart-Cowan: The associate members of the Council are Mr. Bryce, Mr. Reisman, Dr. Arthur Smith of the Economic Council and Dr. Weir, Director of the Science Secretariat. Some of the 25 full members of the Science Council come from government because there is a large substantial part of science in Canada done within federal government laboratories. There is Dr. G. Malcolm Brown who is President of the Medical Research Council, Mr. J. L. Gray, President, Atomic Energy, Dr. J. M. Harrison, senior Assistant Deputy Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources and...

Mr. Robinson: Well, I did not necessarily want to have the names of all these people—I could probably get that from one of your brochures. What is the cost to the federal government by way of paying stipends of one sort and another to these 25 members of the Council?

Mr. MacTaggart-Cowan: the only stipendary people are the part-time chairman and the part-time vice-chairman. All others are honourary—they get travel costs only.

Mr. Robinson: Now you have indicated that you are involved in some marine science work at the present time. Where do you get your equipment from, or do you yourself have the equipment? Do you have, say, a bathoscope and this kind of thing? Do you get involved in this kind of research?

Dr. MacTaggart-Cowan: No. We are having a look at what is going on in the marine sciences. Perhaps I can refer to one that we have already completed. There was concern about the rising level of pollution in our water resources, of the fluctuating lake levels and so on, and generally were we doing a satisfactory job of husbanding our fresh water resources in Canada. We commissioned a special study. It was actually done by Mr. Bruce and Dr. Masland and it was published in this report.

The Chairman: Would you mind giving the title of the report, please?

Dr. MacTaggart-Cowan: Yes, it is called "Water Resources Research in Canada, Special Study No. 5".

Mr. Robinson: Is this report available through your department?

Dr. MacTaggart-Cowan: We can supply it. The Queen's Printer publishes it and has it for sale also. All Science Council publications

[*Interprétation*]

M. Robinson: Je vois.

M. MacTaggart-Cowan: Les membres associés au Conseil sont M. Bryce, M. Reisman, le Dr Arthur Smith du Conseil économique et le Dr Weir qui est directeur du Secrétariat des Sciences. Certains des 25 membres du Conseil des sciences viennent du gouvernement parce qu'il y a une grande partie des travaux scientifiques au Canada qui se fait dans les laboratoires du gouvernement fédéral. Il y a le Dr Malcolm Brown qui est président du Conseil de la recherche médicale, M. J. L. Gray, président de l'Énergie atomique, le Dr J. M. Harrison, sous-ministre adjoint de l'Énergie, des Mines et des Ressources.

M. Robinson: Je ne voulais pas nécessairement avoir les noms de toutes ces personnes. Je pourrais certainement les obtenir dans vos brochures. Quel est le coût pour le gouvernement fédéral des traitements, sous une forme ou une autre, que l'on paie à ces vingt-cinq membres du Conseil?

M. MacTaggart-Cowan: Il n'y a que le président et le vice-président à temps partiel qui sont rémunérés. Tous les autres sont membres honoraires. Ils ne reçoivent que leurs dépenses de voyage.

M. Robinson: Vous avez dit que vous faisiez actuellement des travaux en océanographie. D'où obtenez-vous l'équipement, ou est-ce que vous avez l'équipement vous-mêmes? Avez-vous un bathyscaphe ou quelque chose de ce genre? Faites-vous ce genre de recherches?

M. MacTaggart-Cowan: Non. Nous sommes en train d'étudier ce qui se passe dans le domaine de l'océanographie. Je pourrais peut-être me référer à quelque chose que nous avons déjà terminé. On s'est préoccupé de l'accroissement de la pollution de nos ressources hydrauliques de la fluctuation du niveau des lacs, etc, et en général, nous avons fait un bon travail en ce qui concerne le soin de nos ressources d'eau fraîche au Canada. Nous avons fait faire une étude spéciale. Elle a été faite par le Dr Bruce et le Dr Maasland et elle a été publiée dans ce rapport.

Le président: Pourriez-vous nous donner le titre du rapport, s'il vous plaît?

M. MacTaggart-Cowan: Oui. Il s'agit de: Recherche sur les ressources hydrauliques au Canada, étude spéciale nº 5.

M. Robinson: Peut-on l'obtenir par votre département?

M. MacTaggart-Cowan: Nous pouvons le fournir. Il est aussi disponible à l'Imprimeur de la Reine qui le publie. Toutes les publica-

[*Text*]

come out simultaneously in French and English, so it is available in both. This is the voice of the expert.

In other words, this is an exposé of what is going on in Canada in water resources research and the opinion of the experts as to where it should begin. Then the Science Counsil itself, on the basis of this factual information, comes up with specific recommendations to government—and in this case of course also to the provincial governments because they have the responsibility of water. These are the recommendations of the Science Council on what action should be taken resulting from this assessment of the scientists, and this is what will happen in the marine sciences.

The Chairman: Mr. Robinson, I have three other members who wish to put questions. In all fairness, Mr. Robinson, I think we should return to you later on, as there are others who are waiting to put questions.

Mr. Cullen: I was interested in your opening comment that you have divided your area of involvement into three. You said your first area was an on-going study of science policy and that you help the government to decide policy from year to year. How is this communicated to the government? Is a request sent from the government or from the Cabinet to you or do you have on-going reports of the kind you have indicated there? For example, how would the government decide to cancel, say, a telescope and that sort of thing? Would you recommend it and then they would decide? How do you keep them abreast of things?

Dr. MacTaggart-Cowan: Well, we were not consulted about the telescope. We might have been. Perhaps I could use that as an example, Mr. Chairman—and this is not being critical of anybody. Had the government posed to themselves, when the telescope was first promoted four, five or six years ago, the question why they are supporting any astronomy in Canada; is it a part of the scientific effort that should be supported and, if so, where—should it be in government, in universities, in industry—and how much, that kind of question would be quite appropriate to address to the Science Council and would do a study in depth as to the place of astronomy in science in Canada. That would be a published report. Then on the basis of that, hopefully,

[*Interpretation*]

tions du Conseil des sciences sont publiées simultanément en français et en anglais, si bien qu'il est disponible dans les deux langues. Ceci représente la voix des experts.

En d'autres termes, c'est un exposé de ce qui se passe au Canada en matière de recherches en ressources hydrauliques et l'opinion des experts sur l'endroit où il faut commencer. Ensuite, le Conseil des sciences lui-même, en fonction de ces renseignements basés sur les faits, fait des recommandations spécifiques au gouvernement et aussi, bien entendu dans ce cas, aux gouvernements provinciaux puisqu'ils ont la responsabilité dans ce domaine. Ce sont les recommandations du Conseil des sciences quant aux mesures qui devraient être prises à la suite de l'évaluation faite par les hommes de science et c'est ce qui se produira pour l'océanographie.

Le président: Monsieur Robinson, il y a trois autres députés qui voudraient poser des questions. En toute justice, je crois que nous devrions revenir à vous plus tard, car il y en a d'autres qui attendent pour poser des questions.

M. Cullen: Dans vos remarques d'introduction, il m'a intéressé d'apprendre que vous avez divisé votre secteur d'activité en trois. Vous avez dit que le premier domaine était l'étude actuelle sur la politique scientifique et que vous aidiez le gouvernement à décider de la politique chaque année. Comment le communiquez-vous au gouvernement? Est-ce qu'il y a une demande de la part du gouvernement ou du Cabinet ou est-ce que vous avez des rapports du genre que vous avez mentionné? Comment, par exemple, le gouvernement déciderait-il d'annuler un téléscope ou quelque chose du genre? Feriez-vous une recommandation et alors ils prennent une décision? Comment restez-vous au courant de ce qui se passe?

M. MacTaggart-Cowan: On ne nous a pas consultés en ce qui concerne le télescope. On aurait pu l'être. Je pourrais peut-être me servir de cela comme exemple, monsieur le président, et je ne cherche pas à critiquer quiconque. Le gouvernement s'est-il demandé, lorsque le télescope a été mis de l'avant pour la première fois, il y a quatre, cinq ou six ans, pourquoi nous appuyons l'astronomie au Canada, si c'est une partie des sciences qu'il faut appuyer, et, dans le cas de l'affirmative, est-ce qu'il faudrait que cela se fasse au gouvernement, dans les industries ou dans les universités et dans quelle mesure, c'est le genre de questions que l'on pourrait fort bien poser au Conseil des sciences et nous ferions une étude approfondie quant à la place de

[*Texte*]

government could make what decisions it needed to at a specific instant.

Mr. Cullen: My point is who gives whom the impetus here? Do you make the recommendations to government or does government come to you and say, "We are thinking about getting into the field of astromony, what do you think about it?"

Dr. MacTaggart-Cowan: Well, let me put it this way. Giving us a few years to do some catch-up, we should anticipate this kind of development and have the study done in advance of the problem—because I think if

• 1610

areas of science are becoming imbalanced and we are doing our job we ought to be able to see that sooner than anybody else and see it before it becomes a problem. Now we will not be perfect in that and, if we are not, then it would be appropriate for the government to ask us to do one and do it quickly.

Mr. Cullen: I was very interested in the comment that you were studying marine sciences and, having had some small involvement with the Department of Public Works, I understand they have set up an erosion study group—I am not sure exactly what it is called. Is there overlapping here? Do they ask you for assistance, for example, in examing the effect of, say, waves on navigable waters on the shoreline, the way waves caused by lake boats affect the shoreline? Does the Department of Public Works do that with its own departmental officials or do they call in your Science Council to help?

Dr. MacTaggart-Cowan: We would not be called in, sir, because we operate no laboratories. We are looking at where science is going in Canada. The people they would consult would be the National Research Council, the Department of Energy, Mines and Resources—their Great Lakes laboratories in Burlington. Two or three of the universities are doing shoreline erosion and shoreline dynamics, but our role is to study how science is being developed and how science is being used.

Mr. Cullen: You do not feel there is any overlapping of responsibilities there?

Dr. MacTaggart-Cowan: If we see that there is an overlapping of responsibilities

[*Interprétation*]

l'astronomie dans le domaine scientifique au Canada. Ce serait un rapport publié. Puis, en fonction de cela, espérons-le, le gouvernement pourrait prendre les décisions qui s'imposent à un moment donné.

M. Cullen: Je voudrais savoir qui donne le ton ici. Faites-vous des recommandation au gouvernement, ou bien vous demande-t-il: «Nous pensons nous lancer dans l'astronomie. Qu'en pensez-vous?»

M. MacTaggart-Cowan: Laissez-moi présenter les choses de la sorte. Si nous avons quelques années pour rattraper les retards, nous devrions anticiper ce genre d'évolution et faire faire les études avant que le problème ne se pose, parce que je pense que si les domaines scientifiques deviennent déséquilibrés et que nous fassions notre travail, nous devrions pouvoir voir cela avant les autres et le voir avant que cela devienne un problème. Naturellement, nous ne serons pas parfaits, et si nous ne le sommes pas, il conviendrait que le gouvernement nous demande de faire quelque chose et rapidement.

M. Cullen: J'ai été très intéressé par vos commentaires à l'effet que vous étudiez l'océanographie et, comme j'ai été quelque peu mêlé au ministère des Travaux publics, je crois qu'ils ont établi un groupe d'étude sur l'érosion, je ne connais pas le nom au juste. Est-ce qu'il y a un chevauchement? Est-ce qu'on vous demande, par exemple, d'examiner les effets d'une vague sur les rives, de la façon que les vagues causées par les bateaux des lacs modifient le rivage? Est-ce que le ministère des Travaux publics fait ce travail avec ses propres fonctionnaires ou est-ce qu'ils font appel au conseil des sciences?

M. MacTaggart-Cowan: Non, on ne fait pas appel à nous parce que nous n'avons pas de laboratoire. Nous examinons pour voir où en est la science au Canada. Les gens qu'ils consulteraient seraient le conseil national de recherches, le laboratoire du ministère de l'énergie, des mines et des ressources, et son laboratoire des Grands lacs, à Burlington. Deux ou trois universités s'occupent de l'érosion et de la dynamique des rivages. Nous, nous étudions comment la science se développe, comment elle est utilisée.

M. Cullen: Est-ce qu'il y a un chevauchement des responsabilités?

M. MacTaggart-Cowan: Si nous nous apercevons qu'il y a un chevauchement de respon-

[*Text*]

between two operating science entities, we ought to say something about it.

Mr. Cullen: I was interested in your comment that the Americans going to the moon were stimulated by Sputnik, et cetera, and they are spending billions of dollars reacting to something. What gives this stimulus to Canada? What stimulates us when we get into major programs? Is this something that is studied, or do we react?

Dr. MacTaggart-Cowan: This is what we are studying now. We have an urban development problem. People are concerned about it individually in small groups. Is there a way in which it can be brought into sharp enough focus that Canada as a nation will say "we have to do something about it". If this can be brought about then we will have a major program because the amounts of money involved and everything else seems to be right, but will the public collectively become concerned?

Mr. Cullen: This is my last question, Mr. Chairman. I am going back to the first area again, the on-going study of science policy: who has the responsibility for this? You were talking about bringing these experts in from universities who will stay for a year and work on a project. Is there a governing body that is more or less running the policy end of it?

Dr. MacTaggart-Cowan: Yes, this is the Science Council itself.

Mr. Cullen: The Council itself.

Dr. MacTaggart-Cowan: They meet for two days every two months. The Chairman, the Vice-Chairman, our Secretary and I form a small operating committee which meets at least every second week. This is the mechanism, but in industrial parlance, they are my Board of Directors and I am responsible to them.

Mr. Cullen: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. Mather: Mr. Chairman, as I understand it, the Science Council of Canada is a relatively new public effort. Perhaps I do not phrase it very well, but my conception of it is that it is concerned, at this time at least, with trying to gain a science perspective in the country in depth in regard to certain projects, and in breadth in relation to other science and research efforts in the country. Could the witness say what has been the experience in this area in some other countries, such as the

[*Interpretation*]

sabilités entre deux scientifiques, alors nous disons quelque chose à ce sujet.

M. Cullen: Vous avez dit que les Américains, dans leur course à la lune, ont été stimulés par le Spoutnik et qu'ils dépensent des millions de dollars à réagir. Quelle est notre réaction dans ce domaine? Qu'est-ce qui nous stimule quand nous nous lançons dans de grands programmes? Étudions-nous quelque chose ou réagissons-nous?

M. MacTaggart-Cowan: C'est ce que nous sommes en train d'étudier en ce moment. Nous avons un problème, le développement urbain, nos gens sont préoccupés par cela individuellement et en groupe. Y a-t-il un moyen de faire comprendre au Canada dans l'ensemble qu'il faut faire quelque chose dans ce domaine. Si l'on réussit, alors, nous avons un problème majeur parce que la quantité d'argent impliquée semble être justifiée mais il faut soulever l'intérêt du public.

M. Cullen: Revenons au premier domaine, concernant l'étude continue de la politique scientifique, qui est-ce qui s'en occupe. Vous parliez de l'engagement des universitaires qui restent un an et travaillent à un projet. Y a-t-il un organisme qui régit plus ou moins la politique?

M. MacTaggart-Cowan: C'est le conseil des sciences lui-même.

M. Cullen: Le conseil lui-même.

M. MacTaggart-Cowan: Il se réunit deux fois par mois et le président et le vice-président et le secrétaire, moi-même, nous constituons un petit groupe de direction et nous nous réunissons au moins tous les quinze jours. Voilà le mécanisme, mais en langage industriel, c'est mon conseil des gouverneurs et j'en suis responsable.

M. Cullen: Merci. Monsieur le président.

M. Mather: Monsieur le président, si je comprends bien, le conseil des sciences du Canada est un essort public relativement récent—je ne m'explique peut-être pas très bien, mais enfin—je pense qu'il se préoccupe surtout d'obtenir une perspective scientifique du pays en profondeur pour certains projets et en largeur, horizontalement, en ce qui concerne d'autres travaux scientifiques et de recherche au pays. Je me demande si le témoin pourrait nous dire quelle a été l'expé-

[*Texte*]

United States or the United Kingdom? Do they have similar bodies to ours?

• 1615

Mr. MacTaggart-Cowan: Yes, Mr. Chairman, all the technologically advanced countries have some form of conscious organization struggling with the articulation of science policy. They vary in form, and reflect, I think, the various forms of government. They are varied in actual mechanisms of operation. The experience to date is that no one form can be transposed from one country to another, although much of the expertise that is developed in studying the science of science can and is transposed, and this has been one of the main contributions made by OECD. They have been studying the development of science policy in each country. They have just completed their study of Canada. It will be publicly available in draft form about the beginning of June. What they call the confrontation meeting, that is when a government delegation from Canada will go over and meet the other ministerial representatives of OECD, will take place in Paris on June 25. After that a full report of the confrontation meeting plus their assessment will be available.

Mr. Mather: Are we far behind some of those other countries, such as the United States, Great Britain, or the Soviet Union in what we are trying to do now? You said at one time something about "catch up" and that we are apparently a bit behind in this area.

Dr. MacTaggart-Cowan: In one way yes, because we should have been doing this sort of thing before World War II, but no country was doing it. This is hind-sight. We came close to it when the Act that set up the National Research Council was written. This was one of the jobs given to them, but very early in their life they had to become operators of laboratories, and as soon as you become an operator you become a competitor in the science field and you cannot be objective. This is why we will never operate anything. Therefore, that function was never filled.

A strong recommendation to set up a Science Council of Canada was contained in the Glassco Commission Report Volume IV, and Prime Minister Pearson invited Dr. C. J. Mackenzie to write a report on how to implement that particular recommendation of the Glassco Commission. That led directly to the

[*Interprétation*]

rience des autres pays dans ce domaine, disons par exemple aux États-Unis, au Royaume-Uni? Est-ce qu'il existe un organe similaire au nôtre?

M. MacTaggart-Cowan: Oui, monsieur le président, tous les pays avancés du point de vue technologique ont une forme d'organisation qui s'occupe des politiques scientifiques. Ceci varie en forme et reflète les différents types de gouvernement. L'expérience, aujourd'hui, c'est qu'on ne peut pas transporter une forme d'un pays à l'autre. Une grande partie de l'expertise qui découle de l'étude de la politique scientifique est très utile et c'est là peut-être une des contributions principales de l'OECD. Elle a étudié le développement des politiques scientiques de tous les pays membres et viennent de terminer leur étude sur le Canada qui sera disponible sous forme de projet au début de juin. Et c'est ce qu'on appelle une confrontation, c'est-à-dire une délégation du Canada ira à l'OECD pour rencontrer les autres représentants ministériels à Paris, le 25 juin. Après cela, un rapport complet de la réunion de confrontation sera disponible.

M. Mather: Pouvez-vous nous dire si nous sommes très en retard par rapport aux autres pays comme les États-Unis, la Grande-Bretagne, l'Union Soviétique, dans ce que nous essayons de faire? Vous avez dit, à un moment donné, qu'il s'agissait de les rattraper; donc, cela indique que nous sommes un peu en retard.

M. MacTaggart-Cowan: D'une certaine façon, oui. Nous aurions dû faire ce genre de choses avant la deuxième guerre mondiale; aucun pays ne l'a fait d'ailleurs; mais cela est de la rétrospective. Nous avons presque touché le but lorsque nous avons créé le Conseil national de recherches, mais au tout début, il fallait faire fonctionner les laboratoires. Lorsque vous faites fonctionner des laboratoires, vous entrez en concurrence et vous perdez votre objectivité. C'est pourquoi nous ne ferons jamais rien fonctionner. Cette fonction n'a donc jamais été remplie.

Le rapport de la Commission Glassco, Volume IV, a donc fortement préconisé la création d'un conseil des sciences du Canada, et le premier ministre de l'époque, monsieur Pearson, a invité le docteur MacKenzie à rédiger un rapport indiquant comment il faudrait mettre en vigueur cette préconisation de

[*Text*]

setting up of the science secretariat in the Privy Council Office and to the Science Council.

As far as being behind is concerned in some of these specific areas such as studying marine science, and studying urban development, I wish we had got going at least five years ago. In the hard core of science policy, I arrived on the scene in the middle of last September and this report was already in final draft by then, so I can speak about it perhaps objectively.

The Chairman: What is the name of the report?

Dr. MacTaggart-Cowan: The report is Report No. 4. It is towards a national science policy for Canada and this is the first report that the Science Council brought out that addressed itself directly to the hard core of what kind of science policy is needed in Canada. I think it is an excellent document. It moves us up very close to the United States and the United Kingdom, not that it is by any manner or means the final word, but this is an area that is difficult; everybody is studying it. I think this first Canadian effort—and as I say, I can brag about it because I had no part in it—will stand the test of time. I have five of the sixteen staff members working on the draft of the next version. The policy as to what we are going to put in the next version is discussed and agreed upon by the Science Council itself, and then the staff gets busy and puts up the alternatives, because the

• 1620

Science Council is meeting two days every two months. The staff job is to put up the alternative, the choices and the facts, and then I think the Council will make wise decisions on what to recommend and where to put the emphasis.

Mr. Mather: In connection with the efforts similar to what is now being undertaken by the Science Council of Canada in other countries would you say that the results of their efforts have been fruitful in a practical way in regard to the problems that they have delved into?

Dr. MacTaggart-Cowan: It is a chequered passage. The Japanese have been extraordinarily successful because they enunciated a science policy—I am truncating it very much and by shortening it I will perhaps be distorting it a little—and as part of their science policy they made a conscious

[*Interpretation*]

la Commission Glassco. Ceci a donné lieu à la création du secrétariat scientifique au sein du Conseil privé et plus tard, du Conseil des sciences.

Maintenant, en ce qui concerne notre retard, dans certains domaines particuliers comme les sciences marines et l'aménagement urbain, je crois que nous aurions dû commencer il y a au moins cinq ans. En ce qui concerne la politique scientifique proprement dite, et je suis arrivé sur la scène à la mi-septembre, ce rapport était déjà à la dernière étape de préparation. Je peux donc peut-être en parler objectivement.

Le président: Quel est le titre du rapport?

M. MacTaggart-Cowan: Le rapport, c'est le numéro 4. Vers une politique scientifique pour le Canada, c'est le premier rapport du conseil des recherches qui traite surtout du genre de politique scientifique dont on a besoin au Canada. Je pense que c'est un excellent document qui nous rapproche de beaucoup des États-Unis et du Royaume-Uni. Ce n'est pas le dernier mot, bien sûr, mais il s'agit là d'un domaine difficile, tout le monde l'étudie et je crois que ce premier effort canadien, et je peux le vanter car je n'y ai pas participé, sera durable. J'ai cinq des seize membres du personnel qui travaillent au projet de la prochaine version, pour savoir ce que nous allons mettre dans cette prochaine version; cela est discuté par le Conseil des sciences et ensuite le personnel commence à travailler et propose des solutions de rechange et différentes options, le conseil des sciences se réunit deux jours à tous les deux mois et entre temps, le personnel établit des options et ensuite, je crois que le conseil pourra faire des décisions sages quant aux recommandations qu'il faudra mettre en vigueur.

M. Mather: S'il y a des efforts qui sont effectués du coté des travaux du conseil des sciences du Canada dans d'autres pays, diriez-vous que le résultat de leurs efforts a été fructueux et pratique à l'égard des problèmes qui ont été étudiés et approfondis?

M. MacTaggart-Cowan: C'est une étape mouvementée. Les Japonais ont très bien réussi parce qu'ils ont énoncé une politique scientifique. Je généralise un peu mais en simplifiant, je donnerais peut-être une fausse interprétation. A l'intérieur de leur politique scientifique, ils ont pris la décision consciente,

[*Texte*]

decision when they started industrial rebuilding at the end of the war that they were going to buy their technology and their research because at the outset they did not have time to do it themselves, and they were going to pay the royalties but bring it in, so that the major portion of their industrial growth would be owned in Japan. That has been eminently successful. They are now getting into primary research. They were always interested to some point, but they are increasing their in-house research.

In the United States they have an extraordinarily interesting science policy because it is a multiplicity of policies.

The President has a science adviser as part of his senior White House staff. There is the Presidents' Science Advisory Committee, which is drawn from the peers of the science realm throughout the United States, as a variety of in-house committee and therefore the administration has a science policy of their own that is well developed and well articulated. Congress, through a series of committees such as the very successful one which is now chaired by Congressman Daddario, have developed their own science policy and these, in the American form of government, are checks and balances. They respond to changes in public need at different rates.

Then there is a third policy that is being developed, and is lagging seriously, in the advocation of science and technology in the whole field of jurisprudence and the law.

Mr. Mather: May I ask one final question, Mr. Chairman. I wonder if Canada and your organization could take advantage of the results of similar efforts in other countries so that we might avoid the duplication of similar studies in our country?

Dr. MacTaggart-Cowan: I can assure you, sir, we do. I think Dr. Solandt, knows personally all the principal people in all the other O.E.C.D. countries. I know most of them myself, and I think between the two of us we know nearly everybody in the United States who is in the forefront of this.

For example, on April 22 Dr. Solandt and I will be in Washington and we will be meeting with the new White House people. There is a very good dialogue and a lot of it is now published. and hopefully everything we do will be in the public domain, and the exchange is quite rapid. One of my jobs is to

[*Interprétation*]

lorsqu'ils ont commencé à reconstituer leur économie à la fin de la guerre, d'acheter leur technologie et leurs recherches parce qu'ils n'avaient pas le temps de le faire eux-mêmes au départ. Ils ont décidé de payer des redevances et d'intégrer cette technologie afin que la majeure partie de leur croissance industrielle puisse leur appartenir. Cette politique a parfaitement réussi. Ils entrent maintenant dans la recherche primaire. Ce domaine les a toujours quelque peu intéressés mais ils augmentent maintenant leurs recherches domestiques.

Quant aux États-Unis, ils ont une politique scientifique extrêmement intéressante à cause de la grande variété de politiques. Le président a un conseiller scientifique qui fait partie du personnel supérieur de la Maison Blanche. Il a le Comité consultatif sur les sciences composé des meilleurs scientifiques de tous les États-Unis, de même que de nombreux comités internes. L'administration a donc sa propre politique scientifique bien énoncée et bien agencée. Le Congrès, grâce à divers comités, comme celui qui réussit fort bien et qui est présentement présidé par un membre du Congrès M. Daddario, a mis au point sa propre politique scientifique. Ces comités, dans la forme américaine de gouvernement seraient pour vérifier et faire contrepoids. Ils répondent aux changements dans les besoins du public à différents stades. Il existe une troisième politique qu'on est en voie d'énoncer, et qui traîne sérieusement de l'arrière, celle de l'application de la science et de la technologie à tout le domaine de la jurisprudence et de la loi.

M. Mather: Puis-je poser une dernière question, monsieur le président. Je me demande si le Canada et votre organisation pourraient tirer profit des résultats obtenus par des efforts semblables dans d'autres pays afin d'éviter la duplication de ces travaux par notre pays.

M. MacTaggart-Cowan: Je puis vous assurer que nous le faisons. Je pense que le docteur Solandt connaît personnellement tous les gens les plus hauts placés dans tous les autres pays de l'OCBE. Je connais la plupart d'entre eux moi-même, et je pense qu'à nous deux nous connaissons presque tous les gens qui sont les chefs de file dans ce domaine aux États-Unis.

Par exemple, le 22 avril, le docteur Solandt et moi-même serons à Washington pour rencontrer les nouveaux membres du personnel de la Maison Blanche. Le dialogue est très ouvert et une bonne partie de nos entretiens sont publiés. Nous espérons que tout ce que nous ferons sera publié. Notre échange se fait

[*Text*]

keep myself and my professional colleagues fully tuned in to what other countries are doing because we cannot afford to duplicate any of them. There is not time.

Mr. Mather: Thank you.

The Chairman: Mr. Alkenbrack.

Mr. Alkenbrack: Mr. Chairman, I will be very brief because I believe some of the questions I had planned to ask do not apply now that Dr. Cowan has indicated that the Council does not operate laboratories. However, I certainly have no objection to the amount asked for by this Council for the current year because, I know that science can help solve the troubles that beset Canada. Just in passing, though, I would like to ask in what specific ways does the Council recommend that science apply its knowledge and energies toward urban development, for example?

Dr. MacTaggart-Cowan: This is what the group is starting to study in Montreal today.

Mr. Alkenbrack: I see.

Dr. MacTaggart-Cowan: So that I can only give you my personal experience, and I have had a bit. I built Simon Fraser University. It was a bit of a rush. We have seen two or three, or perhaps a handful, of outstanding developments in Canada that have caught the public eye, which at the same time were below the going rate for construction.

Let me speak about Simon Fraser University. It was built at half the national average. When I parted company with the Board out there the cast stood at $5,000 per student place. The national average stood at $10,000 per student place. It has won more architectural prizes than anything else done recently. I am prejudiced. I think it is good. Everybody that sees it gets a feeling, in other words, it does something.

An hon. Member: Even the students.

Dr. MacTaggart-Cowan: Sure, and that is both one of the strengths and one of the problems. I feel that science and technology can help to do that much more frequently—I do not mean perpetrate the student problems; perhaps I have some of the answers on how

[*Interpretation*]

très rapidement. Une de mes activités consiste à me tenir au courant des activités des autres pays et d'en informer mes collègues professionnels parce que nous ne pouvons nous permettre de doubler leur travail. Nous n'en avons pas le temps.

M. Mather: Merci.

Le président: M. Alkenbrack.

M. Alkenbrack: Monsieur le président, je serai très bref parce que certaines des questions que je voulais poser ne valent plus maintenant que le docteur Cowan a indiqué que le Conseil n'exploite pas de laboratoire. Cependant, je n'ai pas d'objection au montant réclamé par ce Conseil pour l'année en cours, parce que je sais que la science peut aider à résoudre les problèmes qui assaillent le Canada. Cependant, en passant, j'aimerais lui demander de quelles manières précises le Conseil recommande-t-il que la science applique ses connaissances et son énergie au développement urbain, par exemple?

M. MacTaggart-Cowan: C'est ce sujet que notre groupe de Montréal commence à étudier en ce moment.

M. Alkenbrack: Je vois.

M. MacTaggart-Cowan: C'est pourquoi je ne puis que vous répondre selon mon expérience personnelle, et j'en ai eu quelque peu. J'ai construit l'Université Simon Fraser. Nous l'avons construite rapidement. Nous avons assisté à deux ou trois, ou peut-être une poignée de phénomènes remarquables qui ont attiré l'intérêt du public, et en même temps, ont coûté moins que les taux courants de construction.

Laissez-moi vous parler de l'Université de Simon Fraser. L'université a été construite à la moitié du prix moyen national. Lorsque j'ai quitté le conseil, le coût était de $5,000 par étudiant, alors que la moyenne nationale était de $10,000 par étudiant. Le projet a mérité plus de prix d'architecture dernièrement que tout autre projet. Je suis prévenu en sa faveur. Je trouve que c'est une excellente expérience. Tous ceux qui le voient ont l'impression, en d'autres mots, qu'on fait quelque chose.

Une voix: Même les étudiants.

M. MacTaggart-Cowan: Certainement et c'est là une de ses forces et un de ces problèmes. Je pense que la science et la technologie peuvent aider à réaliser ce genre d'exploit beaucoup plus fréquemment. Je ne voudrais pas aborder le problème des étudiants. Je

[*Texte*]

to avoid them, but that is mainly in the behavioral sciences.

However, when you see something like that, and I put Kanata in the same category—and I am giving you a personal opinion—and the first time I saw the Kanata development I was impressed, although not so much if you take the individual buildings, perhaps they are not particularly impressive, and if you take individual pieces of concrete at Simon Fraser University, it is just concrete, but it is what you put together that socially becomes something very important, and it is the sociology of these structures that I think is important and which will lead to a kind of urban development.

So, in this case science and technology become, if you like, the handmaidens of the need to do a better social job of urban development.

Mr. Alkenbrack: Thank you.

The Chairman: Mr. Gundlock.

Mr. Alkenbrack: I have a few more questions, Mr. Chairman. I will not switch to biology. Has the Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development ever asked for, obtained or used your advice or services in the cause of conservation of the cariboo herds and the defence and protection of the polar bear in our Arctic regions? That comes under science.

Dr. MacTaggart-Cowan: If they wanted to know about the protection of the polar bear, and so on, there are people who are competent in this field, wildlife biologists, and Dr. Andrew Macpherson, who has been with us, happens to be one of the polar bear experts, but that is not why he was with us.

Mr. Alkenbrack: No. That is another field of science.

Dr. MacTaggart-Cowan: Yes.

Mr. Alkenbrack: Biology, mammalogy, pathology.

Dr. MacTaggart-Cowan: Yes. We are now just completing a study on the whole field of basic biology which will let us know if we are running into these problems because there are gaps in our scientific effort. Are we in balance? Where should the emphasis be? I hope that will be out this summer. And we are just starting a study of fisheries and wildlife.

[*Interprétation*]

connais peut-être certains moyens de les résoudre mais cela relève des sciences du comportement.

J'estime personnellement que Kanata est dans la même catégorie. La première fois que je l'ai vu, ce projet m'a beaucoup impressionné. En prenant chaque édifice en particulier, il n'est pas particulièrement impressionnant. Si vous prenez chaque bloc de béton à l'université Simon Fraser, vous savez bien que c'est simplement un morceau de béton. Mais lorsque l'ensemble est intégré, le projet devient socialement important. C'est la sociologie des structures qui est importante et qui amène une sorte d'urbanisme.

De sorte que la science et la technologie deviennent, si vous voulez, les instruments dont on a besoin pour faire un meilleur travail social en matière de développement urbain.

M. Alkenbrack: Merci.

Le président: Monsieur Gundlock.

M. Alkenbrack: J'ai encore quelques questions à poser, monsieur le président. Je vais maintenant passer à la biologie. Est-ce que le ministère des Affaires indiennes et du Nord Canadien a déjà demandé, obtenu et reçu vos conseils ou services pour la conservation des troupeaux de caribous et pour la défense et la protection des ours polaires dans nos régions arctiques. Ceci relève des sciences.

M. MacTaggart-Cowan: S'ils désirent des renseignements sur la protection de l'ours polaire il y a des gens compétents dans ce domaine, des zoologistes, le docteur Andrew MacPherson, qui était avec nous, qui est un expert sur le sujet des ours polaires, mais il n'est pas avec nous pour cette raison.

M. Alkenbrack: Non. C'est un autre domaine de la science.

M. MacTaggart-Cowan: Oui.

M. Alkenbrack: Biologie, mammalogie, pathologie.

M. MacTaggart-Cowan: Oui. Nous terminons dans le moment une étude sur tout le domaine de la biologie fondamentale qui nous permettra de savoir si nous avons ces problèmes parce qu'il y a des lacunes dans notre politique scientifique. Existe-t-il un déséquilibre? Où devrions-nous mettre l'accent? J'espère que notre rapport sortira cet été. Et nous commençons tout juste une étude sur la pêche et la faune.

[*Text*]

Mr. Alkenbrack: Are you optimistic, sir, regarding the situation...

The Chairman: There is a vote going on, I think the bell is ringing, so we had better go to the House. We will have to adjourn.

• 1630

Mr. Gundlock: Will we continue in the future, Mr. Chairman?

The Chairman: We will continue next Thursday afternoon at 3.30. Will you be available to carry on, Dr. MacTaggart-Cowan?

Mr. Robinson: I understand, Mr. Chairman, that we will have another chance to ask questions at that time.

The Chairman: Yes. Is Thursday all right?

Dr. MacTaggart-Cowan: Yes, sir.

The Chairman: We will meet again on Thursday, April 17, at 3.30 p.m. I am sorry about the other witnesses and I wish to thank them for coming. They will be called for next Thursday. Thank you very much, Dr. MacTaggart-Cowan. I will see you on Thursday.

[*Interpretation*]

M. Alkenbrack: Êtes-vous optimiste au sujet de la situation...

Le président: Il y a un vote à la Chambre. Je pense que le timbre sonne. Nous ferions mieux de nous rendre en Chambre. Nous devons ajourner.

M. Gundlock: Continuerons-nous bientôt, monsieur le président?

Le président: Nous continuerons jeudi prochain, à 3 h 30 de l'après-midi. Pourrez-vous continuer avec nous, docteur MacTaggart-Cowan?

M. Robinson: Monsieur le président, je comprend que nous pourrons alors poser d'autres questions.

Le président: Oui. D'accord pour jeudi.

M. MacTaggart-Cowan: Oui, monsieur le président.

Le président: La prochaine réunion est jeudi à 3 h 30, jeudi le 17. Je m'excuse auprès des autres témoins. Je les remercie d'être venus. Merci beaucoup, docteur MacTaggart-Cowan. Je vous verrai jeudi prochain.

OFFICIAL BILINGUAL ISSUE

HOUSE OF COMMONS

First Session

Twenty-eighth Parliament, 1968-69

STANDING COMMITTEE

ON

MISCELLANEOUS ESTIMATES

Chairman

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS AND EVIDENCE

No. 25

THURSDAY, APRIL 17, 1969

Respecting

The items listed in the Main Estimates 1969-70, relating to the National Capital Commission and the Science Council of Canada.

WITNESSES:

(See Minutes of Proceedings)

The Queen's Printer, Ottawa, Ont.
L'Imprimeur de la Reine, Ottawa, Ont.

2220—1

FASCICULE BILINGUE OFFICIEL

CHAMBRE DES COMMUNES

Première session de la

vingt-huitième législature, 1968-1969

COMITÉ PERMANENT

DES

PRÉVISIONS BUDGÉTAIRES EN GÉNÉRAL

Président

PROCÈS-VERBAUX ET TÉMOIGNAGES

Nº 25

JEUDI 17 AVRIL 1969

Concernant

Les postes énumérés au Budget principal de 1969-1970 concernant la Commission de la capitale nationale et le Conseil des sciences du Canada.

TÉMOINS:

(Voir Procès-verbaux)

[Text]

Mr. Allmbrack: Are you optimistic, sir, regarding the situation...

The Chairman: There is a vote going on, I think the bell is ringing so we had better go to the House. We will have to adjourn.

• 1830

Mr. Gundlock: Will we continue in the future, Mr. Chairman?

The Chairman: We will continue next Thursday afternoon at 3.30. Will you be available to carry on, Dr. MacTaggart-Cowan?

Mr. Robinson: I understand, Mr. Chairman, that we will have another chance to ask questions at that time.

The Chairman: Yes. Is Thursday all right?

Dr. MacTaggart-Cowan: Yes, sir.

The Chairman: We will meet again on Thursday, April 17, at 3.30 p.m. I am sorry about the other witnesses and I wish to thank them for coming. They will be called for next Thursday. Thank you very much, Dr. MacTaggart-Cowan. I will see you on Thursday.

[Interprétation]

M. Allmbrack: Etes-vous optimiste au sujet de la situation...

Le président: Il y a un vote à la Chambre. Je pense que la cloche sonne. Nous ferions mieux de nous rendre en Chambre. Nous devons ajourner.

M. Gundlock: Continuerons-nous bientôt, monsieur le président?

Le président: Nous continuerons jeudi prochain, à 3 h 30 de l'après-midi. Pourrez-vous continuer avec nous, docteur MacTaggart-Cowan?

M. Robinson: Monsieur le président, je comprends que nous pourrons alors poser d'autres questions.

Le président: Oui. D'accord pour jeudi.

M. MacTaggart-Cowan: Oui, monsieur le président.

Le président: La prochaine réunion est jeudi à 3 h 30, jeudi le 17. Je m'excuse auprès des autres témoins. Je les remercie d'être venus. Merci beaucoup, docteur MacTaggart-Cowan. Je vous verrai jeudi prochain.

OFFICIAL BILINGUAL ISSUE

HOUSE OF COMMONS

First Session

Twenty-eighth Parliament, 1968-69

FASCICULE BILINGUE OFFICIEL

CHAMBRE DES COMMUNES

Première session de la

vingt-huitième législature, 1968-1969

STANDING COMMITTEE

ON

MISCELLANEOUS ESTIMATES

COMITÉ PERMANENT

DES

PRÉVISIONS BUDGÉTAIRES EN GÉNÉRAL

Chairman M. Fernand E. Leblanc *Président*

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS AND EVIDENCE

PROCÈS-VERBAUX ET TÉMOIGNAGES

No. 15

THURSDAY, APRIL 17, 1969

LE JEUDI 17 AVRIL 1969

Respecting

The items listed in the Main Estimates 1969-70, relating to the National Capital Commission and the Science Council of Canada.

Concernant

Les postes énumérés au budget principal de 1969-1970, concernant la Commission de la capitale nationale et du Conseil des sciences du Canada.

WITNESSES—TÉMOINS

(*See Minutes of Proceedings*) (*Voir Procès-verbaux*)

The Queen's Printer, Ottawa, 1969
L'Imprimeur de la Reine, Ottawa, 1969

29990—1

STANDING COMMITTEE
ON
MISCELLANEOUS ESTIMATES

COMITÉ PERMANENT
DES
PRÉVISIONS BUDGÉTAIRES
EN GÉNÉRAL

Chairman: M. Fernand-E. Leblanc *Président.*
Vice-Chairman: M. Aurélien Noël *Vice-président.*

and Messrs. et MM.

Alkenbrack,
Cafik,
Clermont,
Cullen,
Dinsdale,
Dumont,
Goode,
Gundlock,
LeBlanc (*Rimouski*),
Mather,
[30]McCutcheon,
Paproski,
Penner,
Ricard,
Robinson,
Rochon,
Roy (*Timmins*),
Thomson (*Battleford-Kindersley*)—(20)

Le secrétaire du Comité,
D. E. Levesque
Clerk of the Committee.

Pursuant to S.O. 65(4)(*b*)

[30] Replaced Mr. Peddle on April 16, 1969

Conformément à l'article 65(4)(*b*) du Règlement

[30] Remplace M. Peddle le 16 avril 1969

REPORT TO THE HOUSE

MONDAY, April 21, 1969

The Standing Committee on Miscellaneous Estimates has the honour to present its

SIXTH REPORT

Pursuant to its Order of Reference of Thursday, February 20, 1969, your Committee has considered the following items listed in the Main Estimates 1969-70:

Votes 10 and 15 relating to the House of Commons:

Vote 25 relating to the Library of Parliament;

Vote 50 relating to the Auditor General;

Votes 20, 25, L135 and L140 relating to the National Capital Commission.

Your Committee commends them to the House.

A copy of the relevant Minutes of Proceedings and Evidence (*Issues Nos. 13 and 14*) is tabled.

Respectfully submitted,

Le président,
FERNAND E. LEBLANC
Chairman.

RAPPORT A LA CHAMBRE

Le LUNDI 21 avril 1969

Le Comité permanent des prévisions budgétaires en général a l'honneur de présenter son

SIXIÈME RAPPORT

Conformément à l'ordre de renvoi du jeudi 20 février 1969, le Comité a examiné les postes suivants du budget principal 1969-1970:

Les crédits n°s 10 et 15 concernant la Chambre des communes;

Le crédit n° 25 concernant la Bibliothèque du Parlement;

Le crédit n° 50 concernant l'Auditeur général;

Les crédits n°s 20, 25, L135 et L140 concernant la Commission de la capitale nationale.

Le Comité les recommande à l'approbation de la Chambre.

Un exemplaire des procès-verbaux et témoignages s'y rapportant (*fascicules n°s 13 et 14*) est déposé.

Respectueusement soumis,

29990—1½

[*Text*]

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

THURSDAY, April 17, 1969.
(16)

The Standing Committee on Miscellaneous Estimates met this day at 3:45 p.m. The Chairman, Mr. Fernand Leblanc, presiding.

Members present: Messrs. Alkenbrack, Clermont, Cullen, Gundlock, Leblanc (*Laurier*), Mather, McCutcheon, Noël, Penner, Ricard, Robinson—(11).

Also present: Mr. Lloyd Francis, M.P.

Witnesses: From the National Capital Commission: Messrs. E. W. Thrift, General Manager, M. Couture, Director General, Finance and Administration Branch, J. A. MacNiven, Director, Construction and Services Division, J. E. Kirchner, Director of Finance. *From the Science Council of Canada:* Dr. P. D. MacTaggart-Cowan, Executive Director.

At the request of the Chairman, the Committee *agreed* to print, as an appendix to this day's evidence, copy of a letter from the Honourable Jean Chrétien, Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development. (*See Appendix "B"*).

The Chairman informed the Committee of an invitation to visit the National Research Council. The Clerk was directed to make the necessary arrangements for Thursday morning, April 24, 1969.

The Committee resumed consideration of the Estimates 1969-70 relating to the National Capital Commission.

The Chairman called Item 20 and introduced the witnesses.

After discussion the following items were carried: National Capital Commission Item 20, Operation and Maintenance, $10,700,000; National Capital Commission Item 25, Payments to National Capital Fund, $13,800,000; National Capital Commission Item L135, Loans, $5,300,000; Na-

[*Traduction*]

PROCÈS-VERBAL

Le JEUDI 17 avril 1969.
(16)

Le Comité permanent des prévisions bugétaires en général se réunit cet après-midi à 3 h. 45, sous la présidence de M. Fernand Leblanc.

Présents: MM. Alkenbrack, Clermont, Cullen, Gundlock, Leblanc (*Laurier*), Mather, McCutcheon, Noël, Penner, Ricard, Robinson—(11).

De même que: M. Lloyd Francis, député.

Témoins: De la Commission de la capitale nationale: MM. E. W. Thrift, directeur général; M. Couture, directeur général, Direction des finances et de l'administration J. A. MacNiven, directeur, Division des services et des travaux; J. E. Kirchner, directeur des Finances. *Du Conseil des sciences du Canada:* M. P. D. MacTaggart-Cowan, directeur exécutif.

A la demande du président, le Comité *décide* de faire imprimer en appendice aux témoignages de ce jour une lettre de l'honorable Jean Chrétien, ministre des Affaires indiennes et du Nord canadien. (*Voir Appendice «B»*).

Le président fait part au Comité d'une invitation à visiter le Conseil national de recherches. Le secrétaire reçoit ordre d'organiser cette visite pour le jeudi 24 avril 1969, le matin.

Le Comité reprend l'examen des prévisions budgétaires de l'année 1969-1970 relatives à la Commission de la capitale nationale.

Le président met en délibération le crédit 20 et présente les témoins.

Après débat, les crédits suivants sont adoptés: Commission de la capitale nationale, Crédit 20, Fonctionnement et entretien $10,700,000; Commission de la capitale nationale, Crédit 25, Paiement à la Caisse de la capitale nationale $13,800,000; Commission de la capitale nationale,

tional Capital Commission Item L140, Loans, $2,000,000; Auditor General Item 50, Salaries and Expenses of Office, $2,700,000; House of Commons Item 10, Allowances etc., $12,500; House of Commons Item 15, Grants, $240,000; Library of Parliament Item 25, General Administration, $857,400.

Item 20 relating to the Science Council of Canada was discussed and allowed to stand.

At 5:20 p.m., the Committee adjourned to Tuesday, April 22, 1969.

Crédit L135, Prêts $5,300,000; Commission de la capitale nationale, Crédit L140, Prêts $2,000,000; Auditeur général, Crédit 50, Traitements et dépenses du Bureau $2,700,000; Chambre des communes, Crédit 10, Indemnités, etc. $12,500; Chambre des communes, Crédit 15, Subventions $240,000; Bibliothèque du Parlement, Crédit 25, Administration générale $857,400;

Le crédit 20 relatif au Conseil des sciences du Canada est débattu et réservé.

A 5 h. 20 de l'après-midi, le Comité s'ajourne jusqu'au mardi 22 avril 1969.

Le secrétaire du Comité,
D. E. Levesque,
Clerk of the Committee.

[*Texte*]

EVIDENCE

(Recorded by Electronic Apparatus)

Thursday, April 17, 1969

• 1544

The Chairman: Gentlemen, at the previous meeting three members asked to address questions to the Science Council. As they have not yet arrived I think rather than delay the meeting we will start right away with the NCC and resume the consideration of the Estimates that we started on April 1. Howev-

• 1545

er, before we commence I would like your authorization to include as an appendix a letter which I received from the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development in reply to a question that I addressed to him on Thursday, February 27, 1969. This was at the time we were studying the supplementary estimates. If you agree, I will have the letter included as an appendix to today's Minutes of Proceedings and Evidence.

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

The Chairman: I have another letter which might interest you. It is from the office of the President of the Treasury Board and it contains an invitation to us to visit the facilities of the National Research Council before we consider the Estimates, which of course are very large.

If you agree, we will try to organize the visit for next Thursday morning when this Committee is not sitting and we could examine the Estimates of the National Research Council in the afternoon. Is that agreeable?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

The Chairman: I will ask the Clerk to organize that meeting for Thursday morning. I do not want t oarrange it for Tuesday morning because we are going to visit the Public Accounts Committee, then and I do not want to interfere with them as many members of this Committee are also sitting on the Public Accounts Committee.

We have as witnesses today from the NCC Mr. E. W. Thrift, General Manager; Mr. M. Couture, Director General, Finance and Administration Branch; Mr. J. A. MacNiven,

[*Interprétation*]

TÉMOIGNAGES

[Enregistrement électronique]

Le jeudi 17 avril 1969

Le président: Messieurs, lors de la séance précédente, trois députés ont voulu poser des questions au Conseil des sciences. Vu qu'ils ne sont pas encore présents (et pour ne pas retarder cette séance), nous allons commencer à étudier les crédits de la Commission de la capitale nationale et reprendre l'étude des crédits que nous avons amorcés le 1er avril. Mais avant, j'aimerais que vous me permet-

tiez de déposer une lettre que j'ai reçue du ministre des Affaires indiennes et du Nord canadien. Cette lettre est à propos d'une question que je lui avais posée le jeudi 27 février 1969. C'était lorsque nous étudiions ces crédits supplémentaires. Alors, si vous le permettez, je déposerai la lettre comme annexe à nos procès-verbaux d'aujourd'hui.

Des voix: D'accord.

Le président: J'ai une autre lettre qui pourrait vous intéresser. Elle émane du bureau du président du Conseil du Trésor et on y voit qu'on nous invite à visiter les installations du Conseil national de recherches avant d'examiner les crédits qui, bien entendu, sont énormes.

Si vous y consentez, nous organiserons cette visite pour jeudi prochain, en matinée, lorsque le Comité ne siégera pas. Et dans l'après-midi, nous pourrons examiner les crédits du Conseil national de recherches. Le Comité y consent-il?

Des voix: D'accord.

Le président: Nous demanderons au secrétaire d'organiser cette assemblée pour jeudi matin. Je n'aimerais pas que ce soit mardi prochain, parce que nous allons visiter le Comité des comptes publics vu que bon nombre de députés de notre comité sont aussi membres du Comité des Comptes publics.

Nous accueillons aujourd'hui M. E. W. Thrift, directeur général; M. M. Couture, directeur général, Division financière et administrative; M. J. A. MacNiven, directeur,

[*Text*]

Director, Construction and Services Division and Mr. J. E. Kirchner, Director of Finance.

The meeting is open for questions. Mr. Francis.

Mr. Francis: Mr. Chairman, I did not know whether there was any opening statement by the members...

The Chairman: We had the opening statement previously.

Mr. Francis: I am sorry, I missed that.

The Chairman: It was given out on April 1.

Mr. Francis: I have one or two questions directly on the program. I notice that there is a reduction in the amount spent on information services this year and I am curious to know why, with all the services that the National Capital Commission provides, there should be a reduction in this one. It seems to me that one of the greatest difficulties is in communicating with the people of the area on the program and on what they are doing. As I read the Estimates there is a decline of $9,000. The actual expenditure in 1967-68 was $71,000, it went down to $64,000 in 1968-69 and in 1969-70 it is proposed to be $55,000, and I wonder what the rationale is in reducing this.

The Chairman: Mr. Thrift.

Mr. E. W. Thrift (General Manager, National Capital Commission): Mr. Chairman, I would like to be sure that I am reading from the same sheet of paper.

Mr. Francis: I am sorry if I am reading the wrong thing.

The Chairman: For your information, this is on pages 336 and 466 of the Blue Book.

Mr. Francis: I have been using this format and it is page 18 on here.

The Chairman: We are using the Blue Book.

Mr. Francis: I am sorry, Mr. Chairman. I am not a member of the Committee and I just came in for this session...

The Chairman: On page 336 it shows $10,700,000 and $13,800,000, and on page 466 it shows $5,300,000 and $2 million. Vote 20, 25...

Mr. Francis: I do not know whether I am fitting into your program by picking an

[*Interpretation*]

Division de la construction et des services; M. J. E. Kirchner, directeur des finances.

Vous pouvez commencer à poser vos questions, monsieur Francis.

M. Francis: Monsieur le président, je me demande s'il y a eu un exposé.

Le président: Nous avons déjà eu un exposé.

M. Francis: Je suis désolé, je l'ai manqué.

Le président: C'était le 1er avril.

M. Francis: J'ai une ou deux questions au sujet du programme. J'ai remarqué qu'il y a eu une réduction du montant consacré aux services d'information cette année et je voudrais savoir pourquoi, parmi tous les services assurés par la Commission de la capitale nationale, on pourrait faire une réduction à ce tarif particulier. Il me semble que c'est un des problèmes les plus graves, celui de communiquer avec les résidents de la région pour savoir une fois que sont les activités de cet organisme. De la façon dont j'ai lu les crédits, il y a une baisse de $9,000. On voit qu'il s'agissait d'une dépense de $71,000 en 1967-1968, elle a baissé à $64,000 en 1968-1969 et en 1969-1970, on se propose de dépenser $55,000 et je me demande pourquoi on a effectué de telles coupures?

Le président: Monsieur Thrift.

M. E. W. Thrift (Directeur, général, Commission de la capitale nationale): Monsieur le président, je tiens à vérifier si je lis de la même feuille.

M. Francis: Je m'excuse si je lis la mauvaise feuille.

Le président: Pour votre information, il s'agit de la page 336 du Livre bleu et de la page 466.

M. Francis: J'ai utilisé ce format et c'est à la page 18.

Le président: Il s'agit du Livre bleu.

M. Francis: Je m'excuse, monsieur le président. Je ne suis pas membre du Comité et je n'y suis que pour cette séance ..

Le président: Alors, page 336 du Livre bleu on voit $10,700,000 et $13,800,000, et à la page 466, on voit $5,300,000 et $2,000,000. Crédits nº 20, 25 .

M. Francis: J'ignore si je tombe dans l'orbite de votre programme en choisissant un

[*Texte*]

individual item like this. I do not know quite what you had intended but this was one of the items that gave me concern what I read the Estimates.

Mr. Thrift: This is a tentative document and it is really not an accepted presentation. So far as we understand it, this was presented to illustrate the manner in which estimates would be presented in this format. I

• 1550

would have to go back to the information that is in the Blue Book to make sure I am giving you the proper information. There is one piece of information that I have been reminded of that may indicate why the information expenditure may be dropping a bit. We made a film during the last year or so and this inflated the expenditure during those years a bit because film is expensive. We pay for it, so this comes off. This is probably the reason.

Mr. Francis: Has there been any reduction of staff engaged in this activity?

Mr. Thrift: No, none.

Mr. Francis: I have felt that the lack of an adequate service in this area has been at the bottom of a number of the difficulties of the Commission in the past year. This is my own observation.

Mr. Thrift: We believe that this is not solely a responsibility of the information staff but is also a responsibility of the senior staff of the Commission itself, and the Commission is viewing this responsibility much more this way. It takes a little time to put the pieces together so, in effect, they can do what they want do do. Sometimes it does not mean expenditure of money but the way in which you manage the problem of getting information to people.

The Chairman: Mr. Francis, does that answer your question?

Mr. Francis: I do not intend to pursue it any further. I think this will be a recurring subject for some time. Just jumping around a little bit, Mr. Chairman, the Annual Report of the National Capital Commission made reference to a transportation centre to be incorporated in Lebreton Flats. This is the only reference that I have seen to such a development. Is Mr. Thrift at liberty to say anything concerning this to the Committee?

Mr. Thrift: Mr. Chairman, this was a part of the scheme that related to the proposed designs for the Defence Headquarters and it

[*Interprétation*]

poste particulier de cette façon. Je ne connais pas votre intention, mais c'est un des postes qui m'a inquiété quand j'ai lu le budget.

M. Thrift: Il s'agit d'un document provisoire et ce n'est pas une présentation acceptée. C'est pour moi la façon selon laquelle on présentera les crédits dans ce format particulier. Il me faudrait revenir aux renseignements contenus dans le Livre bleu pour voir si je donne la bonne information. On me rappelle un fait qui pourrait indiquer pourquoi les dépenses consacrées à l'information sont réduites. Nous avons réalisé un film au cours des dernières années ce qui a gonflé les dépenses pendant cette année à cause de la production cinématographique qui était très onéreuse. Alors,

M. Francis: N'y a-t-il aucune réduction du personnel qui est consacré aux services?

M. Thrift: Non, il n'y en a pas eu.

M. Francis: J'estime que l'absence d'un service d'information suffisant dans ce domaine était à l'origine de nombre de difficultés éprouvées par la Commission au cours des dernières années.

M. Thrift: Nous croyons que ce n'est pas uniquement une responsabilité du personnel de l'information mais aussi une responsabilité du personnel supérieur de la Commission elle-même et celle-ci voit plutôt cette responsabilité de cette façon. Il faut un peu de temps pour tout ramener ensemble de sorte qu'ils peuvent faire ce qu'ils veulent. Parfois, cela ne signifie pas une dépense, mais la façon dont vous envisagez le problème de donner les renseignements aux gens.

Le président: Monsieur Francis, a-t-on répondu à votre question?

M. Francis: Je n'ai pas l'intention de la poursuivre plus loin. Je crois que c'est un sujet qui reviendra pendant quelque temps.

Monsieur le président, je vois que le rapport annuel de la Commission de la capitale nationale a fait allusion à un centre de transport qui sera incorporé aux appartements Lebreton. C'est la seule mention que j'ai entendue au sujet de ce fait nouveau. M. Thrift peut-il en parler au Comité?

M. Thrift: Monsieur le président, cela faisait partie du projet qui avait rapport aux nouveaux plans pour l'Administration cen-

[*Text*]

was located where Booth Street is now. The design, without any sketches to illustrate it, was that Booth Street would become a divided road with quite a division in the middle of it adjacent to the proposed Defence Headquarters, and in the space between the two roadways—one north and one south—there would be what was called a transportation centre in which transit buses could pull off the road, unload and load, and move back to the road system again.

It was hoped that some way could be found to build a parking garage above it. This then could be called a transportation centre, and if it could be designed effectively so that it would hook into the Defence Headquarters when it was built there would be very ready access for many of the people who would be working in the Defence Headquarters and other buildings which the flats could accommodate in the course of time in the future when other buildings are needed and located there. This was the idea. Whether it is going to come to fruition we cannot say.

Mr. Francis: Mr. Thrift, can you make any statement concerning the priority of development of the whole Lebreton Flats project of which the transportation centre is just a part? Is it intended that there should be an early start on buildings there or what is the priority of the program for this site?

Mr. Thrift: Mr. Chairman, the first building that has been proposed, as you know, is the Department of National Defence Headquarters. This is a responsibility of the Department of Public Works and the Department of Defence. The scheduling and programming is their business. We have just been doing our best to make sure that the site is ready in terms of roads, services, water, sewer and the like, so that when building does start the site will be ready for it.

Mr. Francis: Is there any indication when such a building will start?

Mr. Thrift: We do not have this detailed information.

Mr. Francis: There is nothing planned in the immediate fiscal year we have under discussion?

• 1555

Mr. Thrift: I believe that there has been some reconsideration of the design of the Defence Headquarters, but again this is the

[*Interpretation*]

trale de la Défense, et était situé où se trouve maintenant la rue Booth. Le plan, sans maquette pour l'illustrer, prévoyait que la rue Booth serait à voie divisée avec une séparation médiane assez imporatnte adjacente a l'Administration centrale de la Défense, et dans l'espace compris entre les deux voies, une à direction nord et l'autre à direction sud, il y aurait un centre de transport où les autobus de passage pourraient se ranger pour faire monter ou descendre leurs passagers et reprendre ensuite le réseau routier.

On espérait aussi construire un garage de stationnement au-dessus, ce qu'on pourrait alors appeler un centre de transport qui aurait pu être conçu d'une façon appropriée pour être raccroché à l'Administration centrale de la Défense au cours de sa construction médiane assez importante adjacente a beaucoup parmi ceux qui travailleraient à l'Administration centrale de la Défense et à d'autres immeubles et qui pourraient bien loger, avec le temps, dans les appartements lorsque d'autres immeubles seront nécessaires et y seront situés. C'était l'idée. Nous ne pouvons dire si elle se réalisera.

M. Francis: Monsieur Thrift, pouvez-vous faire une déclaration au sujet de la priorité de la réalisation de tout le projet des appartements Lebreton dont le centre de transport n'est qu'une partie? Prétend-on qu'on devrait y commencer la construction des édifices plus tôt, ou qu'elle est l'ordre de priorité du programme de cet emplacement?

M. Thrift: Monsieur le président, le premier immeuble qui a été proposé, comme vous le savez, est l'Administration centrale du ministère de la Défense nationale. Cette responsabilité relève des ministères des Travaux publics et de la Défense. Ils ont à voir aux plans et à la programmation. Nous avons fait notre mieux pour assurer que l'emplacement était prêt aux points de vue routes, services, drains pluviaux et autres services similaires, de sorte que, lorsque la construction débutera, le terrain serait prêt.

M. Francis: Sait-on quand débutera la construction de l'édifice?

M. Thrift: Nous n'avons pas ce renseignement.

M. Francis: Il n'y a aucune disposition prise pour la présente année financière que nous discutons.

M. Thrift: Je crois qu'on a réexaminé le plan de l'Administration centrale de la Défense, mais là encore, c'est la responsabi-

[*Texte*]

responsibility of Public Works and I cannot tell you their position at the moment.

Mr. Francis: Mr. Chairman, I would like to go to a third subject that I had marked for questioning in my mind. It is the properties that have been taken on Rideau Street. In effect the National Capital Commission has taken a major chunk of real estate in the very central part of Ottawa, and has sterilized it and removed a very substantial part of the economic activity of that area in so doing.

It is not in the constituency I represent but I know I speak for Mr. Richard in expressing some concern about what has happened to Rideau Street, largely as a result of the activities of the Commission. What is the priority to be assigned to the development of that block adjacent to the Union Station? I can recall a number of years ago seeing a Parkin and Associates Plan; it is a good five or six years ago since I saw it. I seem to hear a little less about the plans for development of that every year, Mr. Chairman, and I would like to know just what is intended.

Mr. Thrift: Mr. Chairman, quite a bit of planning had to be done in reorganizing the services in that area. This has been going on and some of the service work is being done. The first part primarily is to serve the new building which is planned to house the Department of Transport, which is the south part of the site. Our understanding was that this was the first step in the development program, but as you know the construction of that building has been delayed a bit from time to time so it slowed the whole program down to some degree. We are preparing—and I think it is well along—a basis upon which private entrepreneurs can put forward development proposals for that area.

Mr. Francis: Does that whole site include the Union Station and the block which you expropriated?

Mr. Thrift: It would particularly include the block on Rideau Street, because it is our hope that there will be private enterprise investment in this block with retail shops, a private office building, perhaps a hotel, and so on, and they would stretch back southward into the site. We are quite well along in establishing the conditions for such a development proposal and it will depend, I suppose, on the financial climate what kind of proposals might be put forward at the time we are able to seek these from those who are prepared to put them forward. They would have

[*Interprétation*]

lité du ministère des Travaux publics, mais j'ignore quelle est leur attitude définitive à ce sujet.

M. Francis: Monsieur le président, je tiens à aborder le troisième sujet qui me préoccupe: il s'agit des propriétés qui ont été prises dans la rue Rideau. De fait, la Commission de la capitale nationale s'est appropriée un nombre important d'immeubles en plein centre d'Ottawa, ce qui a stérilisé et enlevé une partie considérable de l'activité économique de ce secteur.

Ce n'est pas la circonscription que je représente, mais je parle au nom de monsieur Richard en exprimant une certaine préoccupation au sujet du sort de la rue Rideau par suite des initiatives de la Commission. Quelle est la priorité qu'on accordera à l'aménagement de cet îlot adjacent à la gare Union? Je me souviens avoir vu, il y a quelques années, un plan dressé par *Parkins and Associates;* il y a bien cinq ou six ans de cela. Chaque année, on parle de moins en moins de l'aménagement de ce quartier, monsieur le président, et j'aimerais connaître quelles sont les initiatives à cet égard.

M. Thrift: Monsieur le président, il y a eu beaucoup de planification à faire pour réorganiser les services dans ce secteur. Cela s'est fait et il y a du travail de service en cours. Nous visons tout d'abord à desservir le nouvel immeuble qui doit abriter le ministère des Transports dans la partie sud de l'emplacement. C'était la première étape du programme d'aménagement. Mais comme la construction a été retardée un peu de temps à autre, tout le programme a été ralenti dans une certaine mesure. Nous préparons une infrastructure. Ceci permettra aux entrepreneurs privés de proposer des plans pour ce secteur.

M. Francis: Cela comprend-il tout l'emplacement de la gare Union et le quadrilatère que vous aviez exproprié?

M. Thrift: Cela comprendrait en particulier le quadrilatère de la rue Rideau car nous espérons qu'il y aura des investissements de l'entreprise privée sous forme de boutique de détail, et des immeubles à bureaux, un hôtel peut-être, etc., et ils reculèrent vers le sud de l'emplacement. Nous sommes en faveur d'instituer des conditions pour un tel aménagement et le genre de propositions qui seront faites dépendront, je suppose, du climat financier, lorsque nous pourrons les demander à ceux qui peuvent les faire valoir. Ils auront un mot à dire sur la nature de ces proposi-

[*Text*]

something to say about the nature of the proposals, the kind of things which they are prepared to invest in.

Mr. Francis: Is the Parkin Report still the basis for long-term development of this property?

Mr. Thrift: Yes.

Mr. Francis: There has been no change in that respect?

Mr. Thrift: Not basically; the first report did not include that block on Rideau Street but we had the study reviewed after the block was acquired and some alterations and ideas were incorporated in the sketch scheme. We call it a sketch scheme illustrating the kind of thing we see happening there, without saying to developers, this is precisely what must happen.

Mr. Francis: The merchants on Rideau Street have described it as something of an economic disaster for them. Delegations on more than one occasion have come to me and said a very substantial part of the economic activity of this area has been totally removed and nothing has replaced it, and this has gone on for some five years, perhaps, now. Is there any priority, Mr. Thrift, that would indicate when some type of construction will begin in that area?

Mr. Thrift: This is a difficult prognostication because it will depend in many ways on how prepared private enterprise is to move into the area and to what extent they are prepared to move in. Within a year or two sites, I presume, could be ready in the area immediately around the block with which you are particularly concerned, and we are too, believe me. I think some of the development would anticipate using the site of the present Besserer Post Office.

• 1600

This is being replaced by a new terminal at the new railway station. It is under construction. Of course, until that is finished, equipped and operating the old one has to remain.

We are just working out the schedule with Public Works on when this can happen and when there will be some possibility of making an area larger than just one block available for this kind of private development. I think there would be at least a minimum of three years before things would start to show—again, this is a guess at the moment—because negotiations in developing a scheme with possible entrepreneurs take time.

[*Interpretation*]

tions, le genre de choses dans lesquelles ils sont prêts à investir.

M. Francis: Est-ce que le rapport Parkin est encore la base du développement à long terme de cette propriété?

M. Thrift: Oui.

M. Francis: Il n'y a pas eu de changement à cet effet?

M. Thrift: Pas fondamentalement. Le premier rapport ne faisait pas mention de ce quadrilatère de la rue Rideau. Mais nous avons refait l'étude après avoir acheté ce lot et quelques modifications et nouvelles idées ont été incorporées à ce projet. Nous l'appelons projet car il illustre bien la sorte de chose qui se produit, sans dire aux promoteurs que c'est précisément ce qui doit arriver.

M. Francis: Les commerçants de la rue Rideau l'ont décrit comme un désastre économique pour eux. A plusieurs reprises, des délégations sont venues me voir et m'ont dit qu'une tranche énorme de l'activité économique de ce secteur était entièrement déplacée et que rien ne l'a remplacée. Cela se passe depuis cinq années déjà. Y a-t-il des priorités qui indiqueraient quand cette construction sera amorcée dans cette région?

M. Thrift: C'est une prédiction difficile à faire parce que tout dépendra, dans plusieurs cas, de la préparation de l'entreprise privée pour déménager dans ce secteur. D'ici un an ou deux, les emplacements qui vous intéressent pourraient être prêts très bientôt dans ce secteur. Je pense que certains des développements vont préparer l'utilisation du terrain du Bureau de Poste actuel de la rue Besserer.

Cela sera remplacé par un nouveau bureau de poste central à la nouvelle gare des chemins de fer. Il est en construction actuellement. Naturellement, jusqu'à ce qu'il soit terminé, aménagé et qu'il fonctionne, l'ancien restera ouvert.

Nous essayons de déterminer avec le ministère des Travaux publics la date à laquelle cela sera disponible et quand il sera possible de faire un secteur plus grand qu'un quadrilatère pour ce genre d'aménagement. Je crois qu'il faudra au moins trois ans avant que quelque chose ne se réalise. C'est seulement une extrapolation parce que les négociations pour élaborer un programme avec des entrepreneurs sont très longues et laborieuses.

[*Texte*]

The Chairman: Are there any other questions?

Mr. Francis: Mr. Chairman, there may be others wishing to proceed with questions. I have a series of them to ask.

The Chairman: That is fine. If it is all right with you we will proceed with Mr. Clermont and Mr. Mather and then come back to you.

Mr. Clermont, please.

M. Clermont: Merci, monsieur le président. A la page 341 du Livre bleu, crédit 20, je lis:

Subventions tenant lieu d'impôt. . .

J'imagine que c'est l'impôt foncier pour 1969-1970:

$600,000,

et pour 1968-1969:

$475,000.

Dans l'augmentation, monsieur le président, il y a sans doute un montant prévu pour les propriétés que la CCN possède dans la ville de Hull ou la région?

Mr. Thrift: Yes, that is true.

M. Clermont: Maintenant à la page 342, crédit 25:

Paiement à la Caisse de la Capitale Nationale

Qu'entend-on, monsieur le président, par «Paiement à la Caisse de la Capitale Nationale»

Le président: Il y a une diminution.

M. Clermont: Oui, je sais, mais je veux qu'on m'explique le titre, le but de cette prévision budgétaire.

Le président: Comment? Le but de la prévision?

M. Clermont: Oui.

Le président: Vous l'avez un peu plus bas, je crois.

M. Clermont: Oui, je sais, mais pourquoi appelle-t-on cela «Paiement à la Caisse de la Capitale nationale». C'est cela que je veux savoir, monsieur le président? J'ai très bien vu la répartition. . .

Mr. Thrift: Mr. Chairman, the National Capital fund is a fund established originally by the late Prime Minister, the Rt. Hon. Mackenzie King, to provide the Commission with capital resources which it could use to complete capital works which were part of a long-term program, and the intent was that there would be certain sums put into this

[*Interprétation*]

Le président: Avez-vous d'autres questions à poser?

M. Francis: Monsieur le président, d'autres voudraient peut-être demander des questions. J'en ai toute une série que je pourrais poser.

Le président: Très bien. Si vous êtes d'accord, nous allons poursuivre avec M. Clermont, M. Mather, pour ensuite vous revenir. A vous, monsieur Clermont.

Mr. Clermont: Thank you, Mr. Chairman, at Page 341 of the Blue Book, Vote 20 I am reading:

Grants in lieu of taxes. . .

I imagine this is the land tax for 1969-70:

$600,000,

and for 1968-1969:

$475,000.

In the increase, Mr. Chairman, there is no doubt an amount provided for the NCC properties in the City of Hull or in the area?

M. Thrift: Oui, c'est vrai.

Mr. Clermont: Now on page 343, Vote 25:

Payment to the National Capital Fund.

What is meant, Mr. Chairman, by "Payment to the National Capital Fund"?

The Chairman: It has gone down.

Mr. Clermont: Yes, but I would like to know the meaning of the title and the purpose of this estimate.

The Chairman: You want to know the purpose?

Mr. Clermont: Yes.

The Chairman: It is given further down, I believe.

Mr. Clermont: Yes, I know, but why do we call that "Payment to the National Capital Fund". That is what I would like to know, Mr. Chairman, I saw the distribution. . .

M. Thrift: Monsieur le président, la Caisse de la Capitale nationale a été établie, à l'origine, par feu le premier ministre, le Très honorable MacKenzie King, afin de placer à la disposition de la Commission de la Capitale nationale des ressources monétaires qu'elle pourrait utiliser pour compléter les travaux d'immobilisations prévus à son programme à

[*Text*]

fund each year to maintain some flexibility in carrying on capital works.

This is the sum that has been assigned to this fund for this year. Then of course other items explain what it is being used for.

M. Clermont: C'est très bien, voici, monsieur le président, je remarque aux prévisions budgétaires de 1969-1970, la somme de 13,800 mille dollars; pour 1966-1967, la somme de 25,829 mille dollars; pour 1967-1968 14,650 mille dollars et pour 1968-1969 des prévisions de $15 millions.

D'où provient la diminution de ces montants, monsieur le président? Est-ce le fait, entre autres, que le déplacement des voies ferrées dans la capitale nationale est terminé?

Mr. Couture: Principally related to the railway relocation program which was done primarily in the two years that you are now speaking about, Mr. Clermont.

• 1605

M. Clermont: Alors, selon vous, le grand pourcentage de diminution provient du fait que le déplacement des voies ferrées dans la capitale nationale est terminé.

Mr. Couture: Yes, sir.

M. Clermont: Une autre question au sujet de la répartition des paiements à la Caisse de la Capitale nationale, je vois aux prévisions budgétaires 1969-1970:

Promenades $2,975,000.

en 1968-1969:

$1,521,000.

De ces prévisions de 2,975 mille dollars, monsieur le président, combien est prévu pour la partie québécoise de la région de la capitale nationale?

Mr. Thrift: Mr. Chairman, this is a matter of going through the various items that are included in this collective item. A quarter of a million dollars of it is assigned to the acquisition of property in the "Promenade des Voyageurs" on the north side of the Ottawa River in Quebec.

Another $800,000 is assigned to the development of parkways in Gatineau Park. There is one of over $1 million just in those two in Quebec.

[*Interpretation*]

long terme. On se proposait de verser certaines sommes chaque année dans ce fonds, pour maintenir une certaine souplesse dans l'exécution des travaux d'immobilisations.

C'est cette somme qui est destinée à la caisse cette année. Évidemment d'autres postes en expliquent l'utilisation.

Mr. Clermont: Very well, Mr. Chairman, I see in the estimates for 1969-70, the sum of $13,800,000; for 1966-67, the sum of $25,829,000; for 1967-68, $14,650,000 and for 1968-69, estimates of $15,000,000.

Where does the reduction of these amounts come from, Mr. Chairman? Is it due to the relocation of railway lines in the National Capital area which is now completed?

M. Couture: Ceci a surtout trait au programme de réaménagement des voies ferrées qui a été exécuté, en grande partie, durant les deux années dont vous parlez à l'instant, Monsieur Clermont.

Mr. Clermont: Therefore, in your opinion, a large proportion of the reduction comes from the fact that the relocation of railway lines in the National Capital area is now completed.

M. Couture: Oui, monsieur.

Mr. Clermont: Another question concerning the distribution of payments to the National Capital Fund, I see in the estimates for 1969-70:

Parkways $2,975,000,

for 1968-69:

$1,521,000.

of these estimates of $2,975,000, Mr. Chairman, how much is provided for the Quebec portion of the National Capital area.

M. Thrift: Monsieur le président, on pourrait le voir en examinant les différents articles qui sont compris sous cette ventilation. Un quart de million de dollars va dans l'acquisition de propriétés dans «La Promenade des Voyageurs», sur la rive nord de la rivière Outaouais au Québec.

Un autre 800 mille dollars est réservé à l'établissement de promenades dans le parc de la Gatineau. Il y a dans ces deux seuls projets, plus d'un million de dollars qui sera dépensé dans le Québec.

[*Texte*]

M. Clermont: Au poste de:

«Acquisition de propriétés» 1969-1970, $8,800,000.

Quel pourcentage est attribué à la région québécoise, monsieur le président?

Mr. Couture: Approximately $2 million, Mr. Clermont.

Mr. Clermont: How much?

Mr. Couture: Approximately $2 million, plus acquisitions in Gatineau Park of about $1.5 million, principally for the acquisition of property on the "Promenade des Voyageurs".

Mr. Clermont: Thank you.

Ma question suivante, monsieur le président, peut se rattacher à un article qui a paru dans le journal, *Le Droit*, en date du 10 avril 1969, sous la plume de M. Philippe Gagnon, où c'est marqué, «tous droits réservés». Quelle importance, monsieur le président, peut-on attribuer à cet article, qui a comme en-tête:

> Plan à frais partagés pour le réaménagement de l'île de Hull.

On donne comme exemple.

> La presque totalité de l'île de Hull serait rasée; un investissement de «X» montant; Près de 20,000 personnes déplacées;

et selon cet article, ce programme devait être présenté par les autorités de la CCN au Cabinet le ou vers le 15 avril.

Mr. Thrift: Mr. Chairman, we saw this newspaper story, I suppose, with the same amount of interest and surprise that many other people did. We know that the government has hopes and intentions of major developments in the Hull area. We have been listening carefully to Mr. Marchand's and Mr. Turner's statements and the statements that came out of the federal-provincial conference indicating that there is a very firm intent on the part of the government to do some very important things in Hull.

Whether it is likely to be what is outlined in that story, I can only speculate because it seems to me that it was a very speculative piece. This is all I can say about it. There appears to be a good deal of speculation about what the government's intent may be based on the stories and the expressions of opinion and ideas that the Ministers have been making recently. I know they are studying this question very deeply right now.

M. Clermont: Ma dernière question, monsieur le président, est celle-ci: du côté québéçois, quel territoire est compris dans la

[*Interprétation*]

Mr. Clermont: At the item:

"Acquisition of Property"—1969-70, $8,800,000.

What part goes to the Quebec area, Mr. Chairman?

M. Couture: Environ 2 millions de dollars, monsieur Clermont.

M. Clermont: Combien?

M. Couture: Environ 2 millions de dollars plus des acquisitions dans le parc de la Gatineau d'environ un million 500 mille dollars surtout sur la «Promenade des Voyageurs».

M. Clermont: Merci.

My next question, Mr. Chairman, concerns an article that was published in *Le Droit* in Ottawa on April 10, 1969, it was an article by Mr. Philippe Gagnon, which was marked "All rights reserved". What importance, Mr. Chairman, can be attributed to this article entitled:

> Shared costs plan for the revewal of the Hull area.

An example is given,

> Most of the Hull area will be demolished: "X" dollars will be invested; about 20,000 persons will be displaced;

and according to this article, this program should be presented to the Cabinet by members of the NCC on or about April 15.

M. Thrift: Monsieur le président, nous avons vu cet article du journal, je présume, avec autant d'intérêt et surprise que la plupart des gens. Nous savons que le gouvernement a l'intention de faire des aménagements considérables dans la région de Hull. Nous avons écouté attentivement les déclarations de MM. Marchand et Turner et celles émanant de la Conférence fédérale-provinciale qui indiquaient la ferme intention du gouvernement de faire des aménagements très considérables à Hull.

Je ne saurais dire que les aménagements seront tels que décrits dans cet article car ce journaliste semble s'adonner à la spéculation. Je ne saurais en dire plus. Il semble y avoir beaucoup de spéculation au sujet des intentions du gouvernement. On se fonde sur les opinions et les idées que les ministres ont exprimées récemment. Je sais qu'ils sont à étudier cette question avec infiniment de soins.

Mr. Clermont: My last question, Mr. Chairman, is the following: On the Quebec side, what is the area included in the sector of the

[*Text*]

région de la Capitale nationale entre autres; ses limites sont-elles à la ville de Gatineau, de Templeton, de Masson ou Buckingham et ensuite sur la Gatineau; en quelques mots seulement.

Mr. Thrift: Mr. Chairman, the description perhaps may be illustrated a little better on a map, if one of the staff has one. Mr. Couture, that does not show the region; it is a question that has to do with the region and on the reverse of the map you will find the region defined.

The Chairman: Could we use that?

Mr. Thrift: I would be pleased if we could distribute these to the members of the Committee.

M. Clermont: Voici, monsieur le président. Entre autres, Masson et Buckingham, à l'est d'Ottawa, sont-ils compris dans le secteur ou territoire de la capitale nationale?

Mr. Thrift: Buckingham is, yes.

M. Clermont: Dans la région de la Gatineau, jusqu'où allez-vous?

Mr. Thrift: Yes.

Mr. Clermont: The Town of Gatineau?

Mr. Thrift: No, on the map—Mr. Couture perhaps could—

M. Clermont: Dans la région de la Gatineau, jusqu'où vous rendez-vous au juste? Gracefield?

Mr. Thrift: The area of Gatineau Park?

Mr. Clermont: No. In the Gatineau region how far are you going?

Mr. Thrift: Without looking at the map...

Mr. Couture: Just a little bit north of Poltimore, along the Gatineau River.

Mr. Thrift: Along the Gatineau River. And to the east you can define it on the Ottawa River.

Mr. Clermont: That is all right. Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. I will see Mr. Couture after the meeting and I am sure he will give me all the explanation I need.

The Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Clermont. Mr. Mather?

[*Interpretation*]

National Capital Commission? For instance, does it stop at the Town of Gatineau for instance, of Templeton, of Masson or of Buckingham and then on the Gatineau River; could you give me an idea of this in a few words please?

M. Thrift: Monsieur le président, cette description pourrait être mieux illustrée à l'aide d'une carte, si l'on pouvait en avoir une. Cette carte n'indique pas la région comme telle. Au verso de la carte, vous verrez la région délimitée.

Le président: Est-ce que nous pourrions utiliser cette carte?

M. Thrift: Oui, nous pouvons en donner des exemplaires aux membres du Comité.

Mr. Clermont: Mr. Chairman, among others, are Masson and Buckingham, east of Ottawa, included in the National Capital Commission area?

M. Thrift: Buckingham, oui.

Mr. Clermont: In the Gatineau area, how far do you go?

M. Thrift: Oui.

M. Clermont: La ville de Gatineau?

M. Thrift: Non, sur la carte—M. Couture pourrait peut-être...

Mr. Clermont: In the Gatineau area, how far do you go, Gracefield?

M. Thrift: La région du Parc de la Gatineau?

M. Clermont: Dans la région de la Gatineau, jusqu'où on se rend?

M. Thrift: Eh bien, je n'ai pas regardé la carte...

M. Couture: Juste au nord de Poltimore sur la rivière Gatineau.

M. Thrift: Sur la rivière Gatineau. A l'est, on peut définir cela sur la rivière Outaouais.

M. Clermont: Très bien, je vous remercie. Je verrai M. Couture après notre réunion. Il me donnera, j'en suis certain, toutes les explications que je pourrais désirer.

Le président: Merci, monsieur Clermont. Monsieur Mather?

[*Texte*]

Mr. Mather: Mr. Chairman, I had a few questions I wanted to ask in connection with NCC policy on land acquisition in the Gatineau area. I wonder if the witness would describe the circumstances or the policy under which properties are expropriated in the Gatineau Park. My understanding—and I stand to be corrected if I am wrong—is that the policy followed by the NCC is that the NCC will expropriate when someone is engaged in a development or when the land is thought necessary for the parkway or maybe some other facility, and that the NCC will normally only buy land when it is offered at a reasonable price.

I am just seeking to get their philosophy behind this.

Mr. Thrift: I think your information, sir, is about as correct as I could describe it. This is basically the procedure we follow. If some development which would harm the park is proposed, it is only under those circumstances that we even consider expropriation. We do acquire properties in Gatineau Park and have for a long time, on the basis of the owner being ready to sell to the Commission.

Mr. Mather: Is the long-range goal of the NCC the acquiring of a great deal or a good part of the land in the park area?

Mr. Thrift: Yes, we have the bulk of it now; some 70 to 80 per cent of it we now own.

Mr. Mather: I was wondering if the policy of only buying land when it is more or less offered or immediately needed because of some proposed other construction, in line with your over-all scheme of gaining a great part of it ultimately, might not have the effect of slowly increasing the price or the cost of the land in the park.

Mr. Thrift: It might, I suppose, in some properties. Our experience has been, I believe—and perhaps I can get this backed up by the fellow who is directly involved—that in acquiring these properties when they became available, in comparing their cost at the time we acquired them with that when we might have acquired them five or ten years before by expropriation methods, in terms of the value of the dollar at the time we did acquire them and at the time we might have acquired them earlier, we seem to have done the most effective and most economical thing possible.

• 1615

Mr. Couture: I would support Mr. Thrift.

[*Interprétation*]

M. Mather: J'aurais quelques questions moi aussi à poser, en rapport avec le programme de la CCN concernant l'acquisition de terrains dans la région de la Gatineau. Est-ce que le témoin pourrait décrire les circonstances dans lesquelles on fait des expropriations de propriétés dans la région du Parc de la Gatineau? Si je comprends bien, et n'hésitez pas à me corriger si je me trompe, la politique suivie par la CCN est d'exproprier quand quelqu'un entreprend un développement, ou lorsqu'elle croit que les terrains sont nécessaires pour des promenades ou pour d'autres installations. A ce moment-là, la CCN n'achète le terrain que s'il est disponible à un prix raisonnable.

J'aimerais connaître les principes généraux derrière cela.

M. Thrift: Vos renseignements sont aussi exacts que possible. Voici la façon dont nous procédons. Le seul cas où nous avons recours à l'expropriation, c'est lorsqu'on propose un développement qui nuirait au parc. Nous achetons des terrains dans la région de la Gatineau. Lorsque les propriétaires sont disposés à vendre à la Commission, à long terme.

M. Mather: L'objectif à long terme de la CCN n'est-il pas d'acheter la majeure partie des terrains dans le parc?

M. Thrift: Oui, nous en avons une partie très considérable maintenant, de 70 à 80 p. 100 à l'heure actuelle.

M. Mather: Je me demande si votre politique d'acheter les terrains lorsqu'on en a besoin, quand on se propose d'y faire, par exemple, de la construction, en rapport avec votre programme général en vertu duquel vous voulez presque tout acheter, n'aura pas pour effet d'accroître le prix du terrain dans le Parc?

M. Thrift: Cela pourrait être le résultat dans le cas de certaines propriétés. Du moins, notre expérience à ce sujet—et je suis certain que la personne en cause pourra confirmer ce que je dis—c'est que l'acquisition de ces propriétés lorsqu'elles sont devenues disponibles, si l'on compare leurs coûts au moment où on les a acquises et le prix que nous aurions pu payer il y a cinq ou dix ans grâce à l'expropriation, compte tenu de la valeur du dollar lorsqu'on les a acquises et à l'époque où on aurait pu les acquérir, nous constatons que nous avons pris le moyen le plus économique possible.

M. Couture: Je suis du même avis.

[*Text*]

Mr. Thrift: Generally we have found, particularly in the areas of Kingsmere and Chelsea where there are still areas within larger areas that have not been acquired, that we are not affecting the price; we are in the market like everybody else. Out of 88,000 acres within the park, within the boundaries described on that map, to date we have acquired 68,000 acres. There are 10,000 of those acres which are still in the hands of the province of Quebec and which over the past number of years we have been negotiating for.

The remaining 10,000 acres are either in lake or in private hands. We feel that the policy we have been following has been satisfactory to us. We have been able to acquire the land at reasonable prices to the government as it became available. And as we stated, if developments were such that they were going to affect the development of the park then we have expropriated, but only under those circumstances.

Mr. Mather: Would you not think then that it might be better policy even now or in the future to seek to expropriate the bulk of the remaining area that you could rather than to proceed on an individual or ad hoc basis, from a price point of view?

Mr. Couture: It is a consideration, true, but we have found that up to now the present policy has been satisfactory.

Mr. Thrift: Of course one of the things that comes into the question of economics, Mr. Chairman, is the fact that you may have your money invested in some of these properties for as long as 15 years or so and find when you acquire one next door that it does not cost you all that much more and that the value of that money over the 15 years was a serious consideration.

Mr. Mather: Would you say that there is evidence of any speculation going on in the park area, or do sales of land in that area take place between private individuals?

Mr. Thrift: They can from time to time, but we have not seen serious...

Mr. Mather: It is not a major consideration?

Mr. Thrift: No.

Mr. Mather: How much of the payment of the National Capital fund is more or less earmarked for park acquisition of land?

[*Interpretation*]

M. Thrift: Généralement, nous nous sommes aperçus, surtout dans la région de Kingsmere et de Chelsea où il y a beaucoup de secteurs qui n'ont pas été acquis, que nous n'affectons pas le prix, parce que nous sommes dans le marché comme combien d'autres gens. Des 88,000 acres que comporte le parc à l'intérieur des limites indiquées sur la carte, nous en possédons 68,000. Il y a 10,000 de ces acres qui sont propriété de la province de Québec et que nous voulons acquérir depuis quelques années.

Les autres 10,000 acres comprennent des lacs ou sont propriété privée. Notre politique a été satisfaisante jusqu'ici. Nous avons pu acheter les terrains à un prix raisonnable pour le gouvernement, à mesure qu'ils devenaient disponibles. Si des projets de développement étaient pour affecter le parc, nous aurions recours à l'expropriation, mais ce serait la seule raison.

M. Mather: Vous ne pensez pas que ce serait une meilleure politique pour le moment et pour l'avenir, d'acheter, d'exproprier le reste des terrains plutôt que de procéder pièce par pièce? Du moins, au point de vue des prix, est-ce que ce ne serait pas préférable?

M. Couture: Nous avons pensé à cela, mais nous nous sommes aperçus que la politique actuelle est très satisfaisante.

M. Thrift: Une des questions économiques, monsieur le président, c'est le fait que votre argent peut être investi pour 10 ou 15 ans et vous constatez, lorsque vous voulez acheter le terrain voisin, qu'il ne vous en coûte pas beaucoup plus et que la valeur de cet argent sur les 15 ans est un problème sérieux.

M. Mather: Est-ce que vous diriez que vous avez des preuves de spéculations qui se feraient dans le secteur du Parc et que la vente des terrains dans ce secteur se fait entre particuliers?

M. Thrift: Oui, cela se produit de temps à autre.

M. Mather: Mais, ce n'est pas un problème majeur, disons?

M. Thrift: Non.

M. Mather: Combien des paiements de la Caisse de la Commission de la capitale nationale ont été prévus pour les acquisitions de terrains.

[*Texte*]

Mr. Couture: One and a half million dollars this year.

Mr. Mather: Can you say how many expropriations are presently outstanding in the Gatineau Park?

Mr. Couture: I do not have the figure, but there are I think five or six outstanding right now. There are two going to Exchequer Court now.

Mr. Mather: Are some of them outstanding for long periods of time—for years?

Mr. Thrift: Well, the Exchequer Court ones are likely to be.

Mr. Couture: Yes, some of them. There is one I know of in the north end of the park which has been outstanding since 1962, but the individual brings the NCC to court too. Sometimes the delay is not ours but theirs—it is a two-way street.

Mr. Mather: Thank you, gentlemen. I have just one final question, Mr. Chairman. This is not related specifically to the votes here but a number of members in the last Parliament were interested in the government's proposal to establish a standing committee of Parliament to meet perhaps once a year on National Capital Commission concerns and affairs. I wondered if the witnesses would have favoured, or would still favour the establishment of such a body so that we might be better acquainted with the continuing situation.

Mr. Thrift: If you ask me as an individual person, I say yes, sir. We have felt the lack of this. I have.

Mr. Mather: Thank you very much.

The Chairman: Gentlemen, I am sorry to interfere in the debate but at the meeting we had on Tuesday, April 1, 1969, we did not have a quorum. At that time we debated the following estimates: Finance, Vote 50, Auditor General; Parliament, Votes 10, 15, 20, House of Commons; Vote 25, Library of Parliament.

• 1620

Vote 50, Auditor General, agreed to.

The Chairman: Will Votes 10, 15, 20, House of Commons, carry? Mr. Gundlock?

Mr. Gundlock: Mr. Chairman, we were discussing that payment at our last meeting and

[*Interprétation*]

M. Couture: Un million et demi, cette année.

M. Mather: Combien d'expropriations sont encore pendantes dans le Parc de la Gatineau?

M. Couture: En autant que je sache, 5 ou 6 cas d'expropriation sont pendants actuellement. Il y en a deux qui paraîtront devant la Cour de l'Échiquier.

M. Mather: Est-ce qu'il y en a qui sont pendants depuis longtemps? Un certain nombre d'années, par exemple?

M. Thrift: Ceux devant la Cour de l'Échiquier le sont certainement.

M. Couture: Dans certains cas, oui. Il y en a un que je connais au nord du parc qui n'est pas réglé depuis 1962. Alors, la personne en cause avait fait un procès à la CCN à ce sujet. Parfois, ce n'est pas à cause de nous mais à cause d'eux—c'est dans les deux sens.

M. Mather: Merci, messieurs. J'aurais une question pour terminer, qui n'a pas trait précisément aux crédits ici. Certains députés du dernier Parlement ont étudié le cas d'instaurer un comité permanent du Parlement qui étudierait les affaires de la Commission de la capitale nationale chaque année. Je me demandais si les témoins seraient en faveur de la création d'un tel organisme qui nous permettrait de mieux connaître cette situation permanente.

M. Thrift: Vous me demandez cela en tant qu'individu? Alors, oui, je serais vraiment d'accord, parce que je me suis rendu compte que cela manque.

M. Mather: Alors, merci beaucoup.

Le président: Je regrette d'interrompre le débat, mais à la réunion que nous avions le mardi 1er avril 1969 nous n'avions pas de quorum. A ce moment-là, nous avons discuté les finances, les crédits 50, *Auditeur général*, le Parlement, les crédits 10, 15, 20, *Chambre des communes*, le crédit 25, *Bibliothèque du Parlement*.

Le crédit 50, *auditeur général*, est adopté.

Le président: Les crédits 10, 15 et 20 *Chambre des communes*? Est-ce qu'on les adopte? Monsieur Gundlock?

M. Gundlock: Monsieur le président, nous avions discuté cela lors de notre dernière réu-

[*Text*]

as I recall, the witness, Mr. de Salaberry, thought he would bring an answer back to a certain question specifically relative to the personnel employed in the Whips' offices.

The Chairman: I presume you would like to recall the witnesses we had at that time, who were Mr. Alistair Fraser, Mr. de Salaberry, Mr. Small and Colonel Currie?

Mr. Gundlock: The only one we are really concerned with is Mr. deSalaberry.

The Chairman: And that would be on only one topic, then?

Mr. Gundlock: I think so.

Mr. Clermont: Mr. Chairman, on a point of order. If Mr. deSalabery were to supply the information to Mr. Gundlock would it be necessary for Mr. deSalaberry to reappear before the Committee? I understood that he was supposed to supply some information which we have not got up until now.

Mr. Gundlock: Mr. Chairman, if I may...

Mr. Clermont: I am asking you a question, through the Chairman.

Mr. Gundlock: Perhaps, Mr. Chairman, it would be well if he did come back. There is rather a misunderstanding. It actually has to do with people who are so-called sessional workers.

Mr. Clermont: I was not here, Mr. Gundlock, when you asked your question. I was only making a suggestion. But it is your privilege to. .

Mr. Gundlock: I think it would be well . .

Mr. Clermont: I have no argument, Mr. Gundlock.

The Chairman: Very well, then; we will arrange to have certain of the witnesses brought back for our next meeting so that we can resume the debate on those votes.

Mr. Cullen: I was not on the Committee at that time. I notice it was on April 1. I have read the report of the proceedings of the meeting and I notice that all the views expressed were expressed by other than those immediately concerned. My main concern, quite frankly, is for the people in the whips' offices.

I have done quite a bit of studying, and no one seems to have presented their point of view other than, I note, Mr. Gundlock and Mr. Lambert from Edmonton West who were good enough to pose questions on behalf of

[*Interpretation*]

nion. Il me semble, si je me souviens, que le témoin allait nous apporter une réponse à une certaine question qui portait sur le personnel dans les bureaux du whip.

Le président: Présumément, vous voudriez qu'on rappelle les témoins que nous avions à ce moment-là, notamment M. Allister Fraser, M. de Salaberry, M. Small et le Colonel Currie.

M. Gundlock: La seule personne en question est M. de Salaberry.

Le président: Il ne s'agit que d'un sujet, alors?

M. Gundlock: Je pense que oui.

M. Clermont: En appel au règlement, admettons que M. de Salaberry fournisse les renseignements à M. Gundlock serait-il nécessaire de rappeler M. de Salaberry devant le Comité? J'avais l'impression qu'il était censé lui fournir ces renseignements que nous n'avons pas encore reçus jusqu'à présent.

M. Gundlock: Monsieur le président...

M. Clermont: Je vous pose une question par l'intermédiaire du président.

M. Gundlock: Monsieur le président, il serait indiqué qu'il se présente encore une fois. Il y a eu un malentendu qui a trait aux gens qui travaillent pendant la session.

M. Clermont: J'étais absent, monsieur Gundlock, en ce moment, lorsque vous avez posé cette question. Je ne faisais qu'une proposition mais c'est votre privilège.

M. Gundlock: Je pense qu'il serait bon...

M. Clermont: Je n'ai pas d'argument, monsieur Gundlock.

Le président: Très bien. Nous allons voir à ce que certains témoins soient rappelés à la prochaine réunion pour reprendre la discussion de ces votes.

M. Cullen: Je ne siégeais pas au Comité à ce moment-là, c'était le premier avril. J'ai relu les procès-verbaux de la réunion, et je vois que toutes les opinions exprimées venaient des personnes qui n'étaient pas directement en question. Ce qui m'intéresse en premier lieu, ce sont, franchement, les employés du bureau du whip. J'ai étudié un peu la question et il ne semble pas y avoir d'autres personnes que M. Gundlock et M. Lambert d'Edmonton-Ouest qui aient présenté leur point de vue et posé des questions au sujet de ceux qui travaillent dans le bureau

[*Texte*]

those who work in the whips' offices. The answers that I see here were not particularly satisfactory—that there had been a delay of 15 months; that they are looking into it again; that they had received long holidays.

Perhaps the Committee might like to hear the views of somebody from a whip's office on whether they would like to take a three-month holiday to make up for their having had to put in many hours of overtime. From what I read in the report this matter was not gone into.

As I have said, the hon. gentlemen were good enough to raise the questions, but I do not think they got answers that were particularly helpful to those who work in the whips' offices and it is they who are my chief concern.

The Chairman: Very well, then; we will get in touch with the whips' offices and see if anyone would be interested in appearing before the Committee.

Mr. Cullen: Mr. Chairman, they might select one or two representatives. I do not think we need everybody from all the whips' offices, but surely a couple of them can get together. Their problems are similar.

The Chairman: Very well, then; if you so desire.

Mr. McCutcheon: Do I understand that the only witness we really need is Mr. deSalaberry and that it is not necessary to call all these other gentlemen back? Is that a proper assumption?

The Chairman: It is. According to what I have heard, it amounts to Mr. deSalaberry explaining various topics on which we did not get satisfactory answers, or on which we did not get complete answers at that time. Is that agreed?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

The Chairman: At that time, we also debated Vote 25, Library of Parliament.

• 1625

Mr. Gundlock: Mr. Chairman, we were talking about the "stacks" and, without referring to the transcript of the proceedings, I made a suggestion at that time that the security be tightened up. You may recall that Mr. Spicer pointed out that people with access to the stacks were taking whole pages, with access to the stacks were taking whole pages, sometimes as many as 20, and pictures from valuable books.

[*Interprétation*]

du whip. Les réponses que je vois ici n'étaient pas des réponses satisfaisantes, c'est-à-dire qu'il y avait eu un délai de 15 mois qu'ils avaient reçu de longs congés.

Peut-être le Comité voudrait entendre le témoignage de quelqu'un du bureau du whip, à savoir s'ils veulent un congé de trois mois pour récompenser les heures supplémentaires effectuées. D'après ce que je lis dans le procès-verbal, cette question ne fut pas étudiée. Comme je le disais auparavant, les messieurs ont soulevé la question mais n'ont pas obtenu de réponse qui satisferait les personnes employées dans les bureaux du whip. C'est cela qui m'intéresse le plus.

Le président: Très bien, nous nous mettrons en rapport avec le bureau du whip et nous inviterons un témoin.

M. Cullen: M. le président pourrait inviter un ou deux représentants. Je ne pense pas qu'on a besoin de tout le personnel du bureau du whip. Quelques-uns peuvent se réunir, leurs problèmes sont assez semblables.

Le président: C'est bien, si cela vous convient.

M. McCutcheon: Si je comprends bien, le seul témoin dont nous ayons besoin est M. de Salaberry. Il n'est pas nécessaire de rappeler tous ces messieurs. Est-ce que c'est une conclusion justifiée?

Le président: Oui. D'après ce que j'ai entendu dire, ce serait M. de Salaberry qui expliquerait les diverses questions auxquelles nous n'avons pas eu de réponses satisfaisantes ou seulement des réponses incomplètes. Est-ce que vous êtes d'accord.

Des voix: D'accord.

Le président: Il y a eu également un vote que nous avons discuté à ce moment-là: le vote 25, la Bibliothèque du Parlement.

M. Gundlock: J'ai fait une proposition. On parlait des réserves sans parler des transcriptions des comptes rendus. J'ai fait une suggestion en vue de renforcer les mesures de sécurité. Vous vous souviendrez que M. Spicer a souligné que les gens qui avaient accès à ces réserves retiraient souvent 20 pages et des images de certains volumes.

[*Text*]

I had been suggesting that security relaxed a little so as to allow, say our committee clerks to have access to the "stacks", but after listening to him, as you may recall, Mr. Chairman, I suggested that we should probably tighten up security, perhaps by an additional security guard. I think this should be done.

Either we should close it off, or at least secure it. It is rather an unhappy situation, because the books should be available to people for research purposes, but if this is happening, Mr. Chairman, I suggest that we give serious consideration to extra security.

The Chairman: Would you like to have the witness, Mr. Spicer, recalled?

Mr. Gundlock: Not necessarily; I think he made his point very clearly. To me, it was a revelation, as a member of the Committee. All I am asking is that some recommendation be made by this Committee, at least in its report to the House, that the security measures be tightened up some what. It is a sacrilege, really, and does violence to our whole system.

The Chairman: Is it appropriate for us to recommend something when we are examining Estimates? It is not under our jurisdiction.

We carry the votes, or we do not carry them or we amend them; and that is it. We cannot make recommendations. I understand, however, that when the Estimates come back again before the House you may intervene and make your point.

Mr. Robinson: Mr. Chairman, can we recommend an increase in a vote?

The Chairman: No.

Mr. Robinson: I was thinking that to cover the situation, we might suggest that perhaps somebody be taken on staff to police the situation.

The Chairman: No, we cannot. Mr. Clermont?

M. Clermont: Je crois que présentement, moi, mardi, je visitais la bibliothèque avec un groupe d'élèves et il y avait un gardien à l'intérieur, il était assis, et il surveillait. Il y a déjà un surveillant.

The Chairman: I still think it is a very bad situation. When you wish to stress your point you know where you can do it, Mr. Gundlock.

[*Interpretation*]

A ce moment-là, j'avais proposé d'adoucir les mesures un peu pour permettre aux secrétaires de comité d'avoir plus d'accès à ces réserves, mais après avoir écouté l'explication de M. Spicer, vous vous souviendrez, monsieur le président, j'ai proposé qu'il serait peut-être plus sage de renforcer les mesures par un garde de sécurité supplémentaire. Je pense qu'il faudrait faire cela.

Ou bien il faut interdire d'y accéder ou assurer une certaine sécurité. C'est une situation assez malheureuse parce que les livres devraient être disponibles aux fins de recherches. Mais si ces choses arrivent, monsieur le président, je propose d'envisager sérieusement des mesures de sécurité plus sévères.

Le président: Voulez-vous que l'on rappelle le témoin M. Spicer?

M. Gundlock: Pas nécessairement. Il s'est expliqué de façon très claire. Pour moi comme membre du Comité, ce témoignage fut une révélation. Tout ce que je demande, c'est que ce Comité fait des recommandations lorsqu'il fait rapport à la Chambre, de renforcer les mesures de sécurité. C'est vraiment un sacrilège et fait violence à notre système entier.

Le président: Est-ce qu'il nous convient d'établir une recommandation au moment d'étudier les crédits. La question ne relève pas de notre compétence. Il me semble que nous adoptons ou n'adoptons pas les votes et nous les amendons. Nos fonctions se limitent à cela. Nous ne pouvons formuler des recommandations. Mais lorsque les crédits sont de nouveau soumis à la Chambre, à ce moment-là vous pouvez intervenir et expliquer votre point de vue.

M. Robinson: Est-ce que nous pouvons recommander une augmentation dans le vote?

Le président: Non.

M. Robinson: Je pensais que l'on pourrait engager un autre garde afin de pouvoir répondre à la situation.

Le président: Non, c'est impossible. M. Clermont?

Mr. Clermont: Myself, on Tuesday, I was visiting the Library with a group of students and there was a guard on duty inside, he was seated and was watching. There is already a commissioner on guard in the Library.

Le président: Il me semble que la situation est assez regrettable. Lorsque vous voudrez souligner votre point, monsieur Gundlock, vous saurez à qui s'adresser.

[*Texte*]

Vote 25 agreed to.

The Chairman: We will now resume the debate with the NCC.

Mr. Francis: Mr. Chairman how many properties are still outstanding in the Greenbelt, and what is expected here in terms of settlement?

Mr. Thrift: In terms of the time it may take to settle completely all the remaining properties in the Greenbelt?

Mr. Francis: Yes.

• 1630

Mr. Thrift: Mr. Chairman, may we take a moment?

Mr. MacNiven (Director, Construction and Services Division): As of October 1, 1968, there were 30 parcels not settled. This constituted about 1200 of the total of 41,000 acres, and our estimated value to close these is something in the order of $2 million.

Mr. Francis: I see that in the Estimates. There is $2 million there.

Mr. MacNiven: That is right, sir.

Mr. Francis: In other words, the $2 million in the Estimates, according to..

Mr. MacNiven: ...our best estimate...

Mr. Francis: ...will complete...

Mr. MacNiven: ...should complete the acquisition of Greenbelt property.

Mr. Francis: Mr. Chairman, is Mr. Thrift in a position to make any comment on the schedule of new bridges which are planned across the Ottawa River to link Ottawa and Hull?

Mr. Thrift: No, I am not, sorry. I would be delighted if I could.

The Chairman: Any other questions, gentlemen, for the witnesses? Mr. Robinson.

Mr. Robinson: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. One thing I am not clear about is the method or means of holding the land that is owned by the Commission in Quebec. Do they own it outright or is this on a lease arrangement?

Mr. MacNiven: We own it outright.

[*Interprétation*]

Le crédit 25 est adopté.

Le président: Reprenons les débats au sujet de la Commission de la Capitale nationale.

M. Francis: Monsieur le président, je voulais parler de la ceinture verte. Quelles sont les propriétés qui sont encore en souffrance dont le prix n'a pas été versé encore?

M. Thrift: Cela prendra encore du temps pour régler les autres propriétés de la ceinture verte.

M. Francis: Oui.

M. Thrift: Vous nous accordez un moment, monsieur le président?

M. MacNiven (Directeur, Division des services et des travaux): En octobre 1968, il y avait trente lots pour lesquels un prix n'avait pas encore été fixé, ce qui constituait 1,200 acres d'un total de 41,000 acres, et la valeur est à peu près de 2 millions de dollars.

M. Francis: Oui, je le vois dans les crédits, il y a $2 millions.

M. MacNiven: C'est juste, monsieur.

M. Francis: En d'autres mots, les $2 millions dans les crédits...

M. MacNiven: ...selon nos meilleures estimations...

M. Francis: ... termineront...

M. MacNiven: ... les $2 millions devraient terminer l'acquisition de la propriété de la ceinture verte.

M. Francis: Monsieur le président, M. Thrift pourrait-il nous parler du programme des nouveaux ponts sur la rivière Outaouais que l'on a prévus pour relier Ottawa et Hull?

M. Thrift: Non, je regrette. Je serais très heureux de pouvoir vous donner des renseignements à cet égard.

Le président: Avez-vous d'autres question, messieurs? Monsieur Robinson.

M. Robinson: Merci, monsieur le président. Je ne comprends pas très bien comment on détient les terrains qui sont la propriété de la Commission dans le Québec. Est-ce qu'ils appartiennent vraiment à la Commission ou est-ce qu'il y a une sorte de bail?

M. MacNiven: Ils nous appartiennent entièrement.

[*Text*]

Mr. Robinson: You do.

Mr. MacNiven: Yes, sir. Right of Canada.

Mr. Robinson: And this is done through the federal Expropriation Act?

Mr. Thrift: Occasionally we use the Expropriation Act but most of the property in Quebec that the Commission owns has been acquired through negotiation.

Mr. Robinson: I see. Now I notice a heading that says, "Less-Savings and Recoverable Items". I wonder if you could explain this to me.

Mr. J. E. Kirchner (Director of Finance, National Capital Commission): These are materials recovered from the demolition of houses and sold at auction. Also included are boat rentals, trailer rentals and fees, etc., collected let us say in the Gatineau Park.

Mr. Robinson: I see. I also notice another heading under "Grants". It says "Grants to Historical Societies". What grants are made? Are they just within the Ottawa and Hull area?

Mr. MacNiven: Yes, in the region.

Mr. Robinson: They are. And what sort of groups or societies are they?

Mr. Thrift: Well, the Bytown Museum group which has this little museum down by the canal is the Ottawa Historical Society. The Gatineau Park Historical Society operates the place at Kingsmere, and so on. There are three or four of these.

Mr. Robinson: And what would be some examples of the item under "Development"—"Grants and/for Contributions by means of cost-sharing on joint projects"?

Mr. MacNiven: Do you mean some examples related to these particular societies?

Mr. Robinson: No. What are some of the joint projects that you have entered into, I suppose mostly with the City of Ottawa?

Mr. MacNiven: I see. Riverside Drive is a good example, as well as the Lees Avenue extension across the Queensway. The downtown part of Elgin Street—part of that was a joint project between ourselves and the City.

[*Interpretation*]

M. Robinson: Oui?

M. MacNiven: Oui, monsieur. Du droit du Canada.

M. Robinson: Et ce en vertu de la Loi fédérale sur les expropriations?

M. Thrift: Nous avons parfois recours à la Loi sur les expropriations, mais la plupart des terrains situés au Québec qui sont propriété de la Commission ont été acquis à la suite de négociations.

M. Robinson: Je vois. Je remarque une rubrique qui dit: «Moins: Épargnes et articles recouvrables». Je me demande si vous pourriez m'expliquer cela.

M. J. E. Kirchner (Directeur des Finances, Commission de la capitale nationale): Il s'agit des matériaux que l'on récupère à la suite de la démolition de maisons et que l'on vend aux enchères. Il y a aussi la location de bateaux et de caravanes, et les taxes, etc., que l'on ramasse, disons, dans le parc de la Gatineau.

M. Robinson: Je vois. Je remarque aussi, au chapitre des subventions, une rubrique intitulée: «Subventions aux sociétés historiques». Quelles subventions accorde-t-on? S'agit-il seulement de la région d'Ottawa et de Hull?

M. MacNiven: Oui.

M. Robinson: Bon. Et de quel genre de groupe ou de sociétés s'agit-il?

M. Thrift: Le groupe du musée Bytown, qui a ce petit musée au bord du canal dépend de la Société historique d'Ottawa. La Société historique du parc de la Gatineau gère le petit musée de Kingsmere. Il y en a trois ou quatre de ce genre.

M. Robinson: Pourriez-vous aussi nous citer des exemples de ce que comporte la rubrique «Aménagement-Subvention et (ou) contributions par des projets à frais partagés ou conjoints»?

M. MacNiven: Voulez-vous parler d'exemples qui se rattachent à ces sociétés particulières?

M. Robinson: Non. Quels sont les projets conjoints que vous avez avec surtout la ville d'Ottawa, je suppose?

M. MacNiven: Je vois. De bons exemples sont la promenade Riverside, ou l'extension de l'avenue Lees au-delà du Queensway. Je pourrais aussi citer la partie de la rue Elgin située au centre de la ville—une partie de

[*Texte*]

Re-arrangement of the traffic circle around Wellington Street.

Mr. Robinson: And this is all done on a joint basis. As well as that I understand that you make a certain contribution in lieu of taxes to the municipality. Is that right?

Mr. Thrift: Yes, sir; on properties.

Mr. Robinson: On the properties that you hold.

Mr. Thrift: Yes, sir, but not on all. On properties that we lease as a business we actually pay a grant but it is based directly on the tax levy.

Mr. Robinson: On page 341 in our Estimates I notice an item that says "Interest charges" of some $4 million anticipated for this year. I assume this is "on outstanding loans that were made for the purpose of acquiring property in the National Capital Region". Is this self-liquidating? Is it paid off in a period of time or is this something that will increase?

• 1635

Mr. Couture: At the present time the loans are repaid when the properties which were bought out of loans are put to use or are sold. If we sell some property to the Government of Canada for their use, let us say 4,000 acres repay the laon out of the proceeds of the sale. For example, the properties on the Ottawa River Parkway had been bought many years ago, some partly out of loans and partly out of the Fund. But when those properties that we bought out of loans are put to use by putting a parkway near them, the laons then mature and we have to find money out of the National Capital Fund with which to repay the loans which were incurred years ago when the lands were bought.

Mr. Robinson: I see on page 18 of the white book that there is nothing in the National Cpaital Fund whatsoever for this year.

Mr. Couture: For this year for interest, do you mean, or repayment of loans?

Mr. Robinson: It says "Proposed Estimates 1969-70" "Less-Out of National Capital Fund" and there is nothing listed at all.

[*Interprétation*]

cela était un projet conjoint entre nous-mêmes et la ville d'Ottawa; ou encore, le réaménagement du rond-point de la rue Wellington.

M. Robinson: Tout ceci est fait conjointement. Je crois comprendre que vous versez également une contribution à la municipalité au lieu de payer les taxes. N'est-ce pas?

M. Thrift: C'est juste, oui, sur les propriétés.

M. Robinson: Sur vos propriétés.

M. Thrift: Oui, mais pas sur toutes nos propriétés. Sur les propriétés que nous louons nous versons une subvention qui est calculée directement d'après le niveau des taxes.

M. Robinson: A la page 341 de nos prévisions, je remarque un poste intitulé «Intérêts» qui s'élèvent à quelque $4 millions cette année. Je suppose qu'il s'agit des «intérêts sur des emprunts non remboursés contractés en vue d'acquérir des biens-fonds dans la région de la capitale nationale». Est-ce que cette dette est auto-amortissable? Est-ce qu'elle sera payée dans un certain laps de temps ou est-ce qu'elle augmentera?

M. Couture: A l'heure actuelle, cette dette est remboursée lorsque la propriété achetée grâce à ces emprunts est soit vendue ou mise à contribution. Si nous vendons des propriétés au gouvernement du Canada pour son usage, mettons 4,000 acres dans la ceinture verte et qu'il nous paie, nous remboursons l'emprunt. La promenade de l'Outaouais, par exemple, fut expropriée il y a déjà un bon nombre d'années en partie grâce à des emprunts et en partie en puisant dans notre caisse. Mais lorsque les propriétés achetées grâce à des emprunts sont utilisées en y construisant une promenade, l'emprunt atteint sa maturité et il nous faut trouver de l'argent dans la caisse de la Commission de la capitale nationale pour rembourser les emprunts faits il y a des années pour acheter ces terrains.

M. Robinson: A la page 18 du Livre blanc, je vois qu'il n'y a rien dans le fonds de la Commission de la capitale nationale pour cette année.

M. Couture: Vous voulez parler des intérêts ou du remboursement des emprunts cette année?

M. Robinson: On dit: «Budget des dépenses 1969-1970»; «Moins—Solde du fonds de la Capitale nationale» et aucun chiffre n'est indiqué.

[*Text*]

Mr. Couture: If you look at the Estimates at page 342 you will find $3 million for "Proposed repayment of loans" in 1969-70 as against $5 million the year before.

Mr. Robinson: I am sorry. I do not see where this is shown.

Mr. Couture: This is one page 342 of the Estimates. The amount of $3 million proposed repayment of loans.

Mr. Robinson: Oh, yes, I see. Do the municipal taxes that are paid flucuate from year to year, depending on whether you have acquired additional properties? Who does the re-assessing to determine what this is going to be, or how is this brought about?

Mr. Couture: The City sends in an assessment which it thinks is reasonable and we have a look at the assessment to see that it is reasonable. The thing to remember is that we pay grants in lieu of taxes on all properties that we rent and we pay grants in lieu of taxes on properties that are not to be used for parks or parkways, squares or bridges because for the lands that we acquire, the Expropriation Act does not permit us to pay grants in lieu of taxes to municipalities.

As an example of this, if we buy property for future government building sites such as Lebreton Flats we pay the same taxes that would be paid by an ordinary property owner. But if we buy property definitely reserved or categorized for a park, a parkway or a bridge site, the Act precludes us from paying grants in lieu of taxes.

Mr. Robinson: Does the National Capital Commission get involved in erosion control of any kind and costs in connection with erosion on the Ottawa River?

Mr. MacNiven: Do you mean in relation to work that Public Works may do as opposed to work that we may do?

Mr. Robinson: Well, I do not know whose responsibility it is. I understand that the National Capital Commission has considerable land along the Ottawa River and it would seem to me that there is a problem of erosion control. I do not know whose responsibility it is.

Mr. MacNiven: We do the work where it affects our lands, of course.

[*Interpretation*]

M. Couture: Si vous examinez le Budget des dépenses à la page 342, vous trouverez le chiffre de $3 millions pour «remboursement projeté d'emprunts»—en 1969-1970—comparativement aux $5 millions de l'année précédente.

M. Robinson: Je ne le vois pas dans le Budget.

M. Couture: A la page 342 du Budget des dépenses. Le montant de $3 millions, pour le «remboursement projeté d'emprunts».

M. Robinson: Oh, je vois. Les taxes municipales payées varient-elles d'année en année si vous avez acquis de nouvelles propriétés? Qui fait la nouvelle évaluation, ou comment procédez-vous?

M. Couture: C'est la ville qui nous soumet l'évaluation qu'elle juge raisonnable et nous l'examinons. Il ne faut pas oublier que nous payons des subventions au lieu de taxes sur toutes les propriétés que nous louons et nous payons des subventions au lieu de taxes sur les propriétés qui ne sont pas destinées à l'aménagement de parcs, de promenades, de places ou de ponts car la Loi sur les expropriations ne nous permet pas de payer des subventions au lieu de taxes sur certaines propriétés que nous achetons.

Par exemple, lorsque nous achetons des propriétés pour y construire des édifices du gouvernement, comme les terrains de Le Breton Flats, par exemple, nous payons les mêmes taxes qui seraient ordinairement payées par le propriétaire. Mais si nous achetons une propriété destinée à l'aménagement de parcs ou de promenades ou de ponts, la Loi nous interdit de payer des subventions au lieu de taxes.

M. Robinson: Est-ce que la Commission de la capitale nationale contrôle l'érosion et les frais qu'entraîne l'érosion causée par l'Outaouais?

M. MacNiven: Pensez-vous aux travaux qu'entreprendrait le ministère des Travaux publics par opposition aux travaux dont on se chargerait soi-même?

M. Robinson: Je ne sais pas qui est responsable. Je crois comprendre que la Commission de la capitale nationale possède beaucoup de terrains le long de la rivière Outaouais. Je ne sais pas qui en est responsable.

M. MacNiven: Nous exécutons des travaux lorsque nos terrains sont en cause, évidemment.

[*Texte*]

Mr. Robinson: And these would just be lands that you would be developing. That is all I have.

The Chairman: Thank you, gentlemen. Shall Votes 20, 25, L135 and L140 relating to the National Capital Commission carry? Mr. McCutcheon.

Mr. McCutcheon: Just as a matter of explanation to me, as I am completely green about this type of thing, I am concerned about the arrangements between the NCC and the City of Ottawa, and I am thinking in terms of transportation. Do you maintain the parkways? If so, what other streets—or are there other streets that the NCC maintains?

Mr. Thrift: Yes, we build and maintain the parkway system. There are also a few other streets, what we regard as streets now, which are part of our system—Island Park Drive, Clemow Avenue, Linden Terrace—which were part of the system when it was originally established. They provided, for example, connections from the original Driveway on the west side of the canal over to the Experimental Farm along Clemow. Although we still have it it looks more like a city street now than I guess it did when they first established it. Island Park Drive is part of our parkway system although it looks like a city street and operates as a city street. But most of the others are now parkways or limited access, wider rights-of-way and these are a part of and maintained entirely by the Commission with the exception of Riverside Drive, which is a 50-50 arrangement in acquisition and development with the City.

The Chairman: Mr. Francis, a supplementary.

Mr. Francis: I have a supplementary on that point. Is it not still the case that when the grant in lieu of taxes is paid by the federal government to the City of Ottawa there are offsetting items in respect of these N.C.C. expenditures?

Mr. Thrift: Yes.

Mr. Francis: So, in effect, while they are maintained by the N.C.C. they are deducted from the grant that would otherwise be payable to the City of Ottawa?

Mr. Thrift: This is a complicated system of deductions and is largely worked out through the Department of Finance.

[*Interprétation*]

M. Robinson: Ce sont simplement des terrains que vous aménagez? C'est tout ce que j'avais à dire.

Le président: Merci, messieurs. Est-ce que les crédits 20, 25, L-135 et L-140 sont adoptés? Monsieur McCutcheon.

M. McCutcheon: Je voudrais une explication car je n'y connais rien dans ce domaine. Je songe aux ententes conclues entre la ville d'Ottawa et la Commission de la capitale nationale, et particulièrement dans le domaine des transports. Est-ce que vous êtes responsables de l'entretien des promenades? Et dans ce cas, de quelles autres rues s'il y a d'autres rues, la Commission doit-elle assurer l'entretien?

M. Thrift: Oui, nous construisons et nous assurons l'entretien du réseau de promenades. Il y a quelques autres rues, ce que nous considérons des rues à l'heure actuelle, qui font partie du réseau comme l'*Island Park Drive*, l'avenue *Linden Terrace*, qui faisaient partie du réseau initial. Elles servaient de lien entre le Driveway tel qu'il existait à l'origine, du côté ouest du canal, vers la Ferme expérimentale en empruntant l'avenue Clemow. Bien qu'elle existe toujours, elle ressemble plus à une rue de la ville maintenant que lorsque le réseau fut établi. *Island Park Drive* fait partie du réseau de promenades, bien qu'elle ressemble à une rue de la ville et joue ce rôle. La plupart des autres voies, sont maintenant des promenades ou des voies à accès limité. Elles font partie du réseau et sont entretenues par notre Commission, à l'exception de *Riverside Drive* dont les frais d'entretien, le coût d'achat et de construction sont partagés à part égale avec la ville.

Le président: Monsieur Francis a une question complémentaire.

M. Francis: J'ai une question supplémentaire à poser sur ce point: N'est-ce pas encore le cas que lorsque le gouvernement fédéral paye à la Ville d'Ottawa des subventions au lieu de lui payer des taxes, ces dépenses de la CCN sont compensées par d'autres articles de dépense?

M. Thrift: Oui.

M. Francis: Ainsi, en fait, bien qu'ils soient maintenus par la CCN, ils sont déduits des subventions qui autrement seraient payables à la Ville d'Ottawa?

M. Thrift: C'est un système de déductions très compliqué qui est mis au point par le ministère des Finances.

[*Text*]

Mr. Francis: But there is a deduction.

Mr. Thrift: Yes, there is a deduction. You are right.

Mr. McCutcheon: In other words, this is a deal between you and the City of Ottawa for cost sharing. How does this work? The answer that Mr. Francis received let me a little bewildered.

Mr. Thrift: Perhaps Mr. MacNiven could give you an example, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. J. A. MacNiven (Director, Construction and Services Division): Each year the Department of Finance asks the National Capital Commission three questions. They ask us the amount of roadway and the dollar value that we put into it during that year. They ask us for the maintenance cost on all our systems. They then use these figures, as I understand it, and relate them to the grant in lieu of taxes, as Mr. Francis has said. I have no idea what they do internally but I know each year we supply them with this information and it is used to relate to the grant to The City of Ottawa—presumably to reduce it.

Mr. Francis: Quite so, not "presumably".

Mr. Thrift: I would not question this because we know that it does reduce it.

Mr. MacNiven: One other thing that Mr. Thrift has not mentioned is that parts of certain facilities, such as the Queensway, at one time had a railroad on them and part of our railroad relocation scheme made available this right-of-way, and the Commission supplied to the Department of Highways, Ontario, at that particular time 180 feet of right-of-way within the city limits. So we do get involved in other areas in transportation.

Mr. McCutcheon: I have one final question. In respect of Confederation Heights and Le Breton Flats it says: 1968-69—$3,003,000; and 1969-70—$2,915,000. Now what is it?

Mr. Thrift: Mr. Chairman, there is an error. It should not be "Confederation Heights", it should be "Confederation Square" and that includes the area on the east side of the canal about which Mr. Francis was asking questions earlier—that area including the National Arts

[*Interpretation*]

M. Francis: Mais, il y a une déduction.

M. Thrift: Oui, il y a une déduction. Vous avez raison.

M. McCutcheon: Autrement dit, c'est une entente entre vous et la ville d'Ottawa pour ce qui est du partage des coûts. Comment déterminez-vous cela? La réponse que M. Francis a obtenue m'a dérouté quelque peu.

M. Thrift: M. MacNiven pourrait, peut-être, vous donner un exemple.

M. J. A. MacNiven (Directeur, division de la construction et des services): Chaque année, le ministère des Finances pose à la Commission de la Capitale nationale trois questions. Il nous demande la longueur des routes et la valeur en dollar que nous y avons dépensé durant l'année. Il nous demande aussi les chiffres représentant les frais d'entretien sur tout notre système. Il utilise ensuite ces chiffres et établit le rapport entre ces chiffres et la subvention au lieu des taxes comme M. Francis l'a instigué. Je n'ai aucune idée de leur opération interne, mais je sais que nous lui fournissons chaque année ces renseignements et il s'en sert pour les comparer avec la subvention destinée à la Ville d'Ottawa, probablement pour en faire la déduction.

M. Francis: Pas probablement, mais sûrement.

M. Thrift: Je n'en doute pas, parce que nous savons que ces chiffres sont déduits des subventions.

M. MacNiven: Un autre point que M. Thrift n'a pas mentionné c'est qu'à un moment donné, le chemin de fer traversait ce qui est maintenant le Queensway, et une partie des plans de réaménagement des chemins de fer rendit disponible ce droit de passage, et la Commission avait consenti au ministère de la Voirie de l'Ontario, à ce moment-là, un droit de passage de 180 pieds dans les limites de la Ville. Par conséquent, nous nous intéressons à d'autres secteurs pour ce qui est du transport.

M. McCutcheon: Une dernière question, si vous me permettez. En ce qui concerne *Confederation Heights* et «*Lebreton Flats*» les chiffres sont les suivants: $3,003,000 pour l'exercice 1968-1969 et $2,915,000 pour 1969-1970. De quoi s'agit-il?

M. Thrift: Monsieur le président, il y a erreur. Ce n'est pas *Confederation Heights*, mais «*Confederation Square*» et cela comprend le secteur à l'est du canal y compris le Centre national des arts jusqu'à l'avenue Laurier puis au-dessus du Canal vers l'est jusqu'à

[*Texte*]

Centre down to Laurier Avenue and over on the east side of the canal as far as Nicholas Street and including the block facing Rideau Street. These are sums for the provision of new road connection and new services in these areas so that when building eventually commences the sites will be ready to take them. So we have investments of this kind in both of these areas in preparation for their use for building sites.

Mr. McCutcheon: What is envisioned in addition to what is already going on in that area? Surely there are not to be any more roads, are there?

Mr. Thrift: This is on the east side of the canal opposite the National Arts Centre. There is quite an area in behind where the old station was which we now own. There were yards and buildings and things of this kind. Also, we will acquire, when the old post office on Besserer Street goes out of use, that site for public works. And we own the block between it and Rideau Street. We are not

• 1635

going to touch those buildings until new development is ready to go in. We realize and we are quite keenly aware of the effects of empty buildings and vacant lots on retail trade in that area. This is very serious. We are very keenly aware of this and we do not want to touch that and do any more harm to it than we possibly can until new developments are ready to go in and start injecting more life and energy into the place. We are much concerned with this.

Mr. McCutcheon: In other words, it is not Confederation Heights at all?

Mr. Thrift: No, it is not Confederation Heights at all. That was a typographical error.

Mr. McCutcheon: I am glad I asked that question.

Mr. Thrift: I am sorry about that.

Mr. McCutcheon: What about Le Breton Flats?

Mr. Thrift: Well, it is the same problem and the same kind of thing is being done there—provision of such new services as hydro, telephone, sewer, water, alteration to the road system, so that when the new building comes along it will be located where some of the old sewers, water lines and old streets were. They had to be replaced with ones that would better serve the new developments. Of course a lot of them were very old because

[*Interprétation*]

la rue Nicholas y compris le bloc faisant face à la rue Rideau. Ce sont des sommes visant à assurer la construction des voies de raccord et des services dans ces secteurs, afin que lorsque les travaux de construction commencent les terrains seront prêts. Par conséquent nous avons des investissements de ce genre dans ces deux secteurs en prévision des constructions à venir.

M. McCutcheon: Avez-vous d'autres projets en vue? Vous n'allez sûrement pas y construire d'autres routes?

M. Thrift: Ceci c'est dans le secteur à l'est du canal, en face du Centre national des arts. Il y a tout un secteur à l'arrière de l'ancienne gare, lequel secteur nous appartient. Il y avait là des cours, des bâtiments, etc. Nous comptons acquérir aussi, lorsque le vieux bureau de poste et la rue Rideau nous appard'usage, ce secteur-là pour des travaux public. Le carré qui se trouve entre le bureau de poste et la rue Rideau nous appartient également. Nous n'allons pas y toucher jusqu'à ce que l'on procède à d'autres aménagements. Nous réalisons les conséquences d'édifices vides et de terrains vacants sur le commerce dans cette région. C'est très sérieux. Nous en sommes très conscients. Nous n'y toucherons pas jusqu'à ce que de nouveaux aménagements soient prêts à y être installés et à y insuffler plus de vie et d'énergie.

M. McCutcheon: Autrement dit, ce n'est pas *Confederation Heights.*

M. Thrift: Non, c'était une erreur typographique.

M. McCutcheon: Je suis content d'avoir posé cette question.

M. Thrift: Je regrette cette erreur.

M. McCutcheon: Qu'en pensez-vous de *Le Breton Flats?*

M. Thrift: C'est le même genre d'efforts qu'on fait dans ce secteur, l'installation de nouveaux services, tels que services d'électricité, d'égoût, de téléphone, d'aqueduc, et une modification du système routier pour que les nouvelles constructions soient situées sur l'emplacement des anciens égoûts, des conduites d'eau et des anciennes rues. Ces installations devaient être remplacées par d'autres qui serviraient mieux les nouveaux

[*Text*]

this is one of the oldest parts of the city. So they are being replaced with new services which will accommodate the buildings which are contemplated, particularly the Defence Headquarters.

Mr. McCutcheon: Mr. Robinson mentioned a problem in connection with river bank erosion and so on. Can you tell us anything about pollution control, or does this fall under another jurisdiction?

Mr. Thrift: It falls under another jurisdiction but we are interested and very much concerned. The Commission has expressed itself very firmly about its worry on this score. We do not have very much to do with it other than, of course, some of the properties that we own about the rivers and we try to be sure that no development or any activity that goes on on lands owned by the Commission will create anything in the way of pollution. We did find that there were one or two little pipes that went down from one little place we had on one of these park areas leading into the river but we cut those off pretty quickly and got it all tidied up. But it is surprising sometimes to find one little building not more than 20 feet square with a piece of plumbing running straight out.

Mr. McCutcheon: Yes.

Mr. Thrift: We picked up all those things and tidied them up. But this has not altered the over-all general pollution problem. We have been very much involved in helping the City of Ottawa with its pollution problem. When the city decided to build a pollution control plant it seemed to the city, to us and to others that it would be far better to build it further down the river at a place near Green Creek. As a result of discussing this it was decided, and the government provided $5 million to extend the collector sewer out to Green Creek and to provide a pumping system to lift it into the plant. To that extent we have assisted in pollution control on this side of the river.

Mr. McCutcheon: Thank you.

Votes 20, 25, L135 and L140, relating to the National Capital Commission, agreed to.

The Chairman: I wish to thank the witnesses. We will resume consideration of the Estimates 1969-70 relating to the Science

[*Interpretation*]

projets. Une bonne partie de ces installations sont très vieilles étant donné qu'elles se trouvent dans les vieux secteurs de la ville. Par conséquent elles sont remplacées par de nouveaux services pour les nouveaux édifices projetés; tels que les quartiers généraux de la Défense.

M. McCutcheon: M. Robinson a parlé de problèmes qui se rapportent à l'érosion du bord du fleuve etc. Pouvez-vous nous dire quelque chose au sujet de la lutte contre la pollution, ou cette question relève-t-elle de quelqu'un d'autre?

M. Thrift: Elle relève d'un autre organisme, mais c'est un sujet qui nous intéresse et nous préoccupe beaucoup. La Commission a très bien exprimé son inquiétude à ce sujet. Nous n'avons pas grand chose à voir à ce sujet, sauf que nous avons quelques propriétés aux environs du fleuve, et nous nous assurons que les projets qui occuperont nos terres ne seront pas la cause d'une pollution des eaux. Nous avons découvert une ou deux conduites provenant d'un de ces parcs que nous possédons au bord de la rivière, mais nous avons bien vite remédié à la situation. C'est surprenant de découvrir une petite bâtisse pas plus que 20 pieds carrés de superficie, avec une pièce de plomberie se dégageant et menant directement vers la rivière.

M. McCutcheon: Oui.

M. Thrift: Nous avons ramassé toutes ces choses-là et avons nettoyé la place. Mais ceci ne change pas l'aspect général du problème de la pollution. Nous avons beaucoup aidé la ville d'Ottawa pour ce qui est du problème de la pollution. Lorsque la ville a décidé de construire une usine de contrôle de la pollution, nous avons convenu avec la Ville qu'il vaudrait mieux installer l'usine au bas du fleuve, à un endroit près de *Green Park*. Finalement la décision a été prise et le gouvernement a versé un montant de 5 millions de dollars pour prolonger l'égoût collecteur jusqu'à *Green Park*, et pour fournir un système qui pomperait l'eau dans l'usine. Voilà jusqu'à quel point nous avons aidé au contrôle de la pollution de ce côté de la rivière.

M. McCutcheon: Merci.

Les crédits n°s 20, 25, L135 et L140, ayant trait à la Commission de la Capitale Nationale sont approuvés.

Le président: J'aimerais remercier les témoins. Nous reprenons l'étude des prévisions budgétaires du Conseil des sciences du

[*Texte*]

Council of Canada. The first speaker will be Mr. Alkenbrack.

In the meantime, gentlemen, I think that we could carry Vote 10 and Vote 15 of the House of Commons because those votes seem to have the agreement of the members. House of Commons Vote 10 is allowances to officials and Vote 15 is House of Commons grants. That leaves Vote 20, House of Commons General Administration, which we will discuss with Mr. de Salaberry next week.

Shall Vote 10 and Vote 15 of the House of Commons carry?

Mr. Ricard: Before it carries, Mr. Chairman, could you tell me which item expenses for our automobiles come under?

• 1650

The Chairman: General Administration, so you can discuss that at the next meeting. That vote will not be carried today.

Vote 10 and Vote 15 of the House of Commons agreed to.

The Chairman: Gentlemen, you know the witnesses from the Science Council of Canada. We have Dr. P. D. MacTaggart-Cowan, Executive Director and Mr. D. Hunka, Chief of Administration.

Mr. Alkenbrack: Mr. Chairman, when we last adjourned I had been asking Dr. MacTaggart-Cowan what advice and what leadership the Science Council was giving regarding the conservation of the Cariboo herds and the polar bear population in the North and he had just started to answer that question. I do not think we require any extensive evidence. I was just concerned about whether or not it came within their jurisdiction.

Dr. MacTaggart-Cowan: Thank you, Mr. Chairman, the actual scientific and technical advice would be given by the Wildlife Service in the Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development, but the Science Council has a concern with the over-all well-being of the Wildlife services in addition to the forest and fishery problems that are inter-related.

We have two studies sir, that are just getting underway now. One is to look at the whole range of forestry problems—is science and technology properly being brought to bear on those? And the other is on fisheries and wildlife. I hope these studies will be completed within the year, and this will ena-

[*Interprétation*]

Canada. Le premier orateur sera M. Alkenbrack.

Entre-temps, messieurs, nous pourrions approuver les crédits 10 et 15 de la Chambre des communes, étant donné que les députés sont d'accord. Le crédit n° 10 de la Chambre porte sur les allocations aux fonctionnaires, et le crédit n° 15 sur les subventions de la Chambre des communes. Il reste le crédit n° 20 de l'Administration générale de la Chambre qui sera discuté avec M. de Salaberry la semaine prochaine.

Les crédits n° 10 et 15 de la Chambre sont-ils approuvés?

M. Ricard: Avant de les approuver, monsieur le président, sous quel poste porte-t-on nos dépenses automobiles?

Le président: Sous l'Administration générale, pour que vous puissiez en discuter à la prochaine assemblée. Ce crédit-là ne sera pas approuvé aujourd'hui.

Les crédits 10 et 15 de la Chambre des communes sont adoptés.

Le président: Messieurs, vous connaissez les témoins du Conseil des Sciences du Canada. Nous avons M. P. D. MacTaggart-Cowan, directeur exécutif, et M. D. Hunka, chef de l'administration.

M. Alkenbrack: Monsieur le président, lors de l'ajournement de la dernière séance, je demandais à M. MacTaggart-Cowan quels conseils et quelles directives le Conseil des sciences dispensait concernant la conservation des troupeaux de cariboo et des ours polaires dans le Nord, et il était sur le point de me répondre. Je ne pense pas que nous ayons besoin d'une preuve plus détaillée. Je m'inquiétais seulement de savoir si ce problème relevait ou non de ma juridiction.

M. MacTaggart-Cowan: Merci, monsieur le président. Les conseils scientifiques et techniques seraient donnés par le Service de la faune, du ministère des Affaires indiennes et du Nord canadien, mais le Conseil scientifique s'intéresse au bon rendement général des services de la faune en plus des problèmes de la forêt et de la pêche qui sont des problèmes connexes.

Nous poursuivons présentement des études monsieur, qui viennent maintenant d'être mises en train. L'une d'elle a pour objectif de faire l'examen de toute la gamme des problèmes du forestage—la science et la technologie sont-elles bien utilisées pour exercer une influence sur ces problèmes? L'autre étude porte

[*Text*]

ble us to either point out deficiencies or assure everybody that science and technology are being well applied to those problems. I agree, indeed, that there are some serious problems in the North, with erosion owing to tractor trails and the removal of the tundra overburden.

Mr. Alkenbrack: Just one more question, Mr. Chairman. What leadership has the Science Council been giving to governments, particularly applying to central Canada and that great scourge of central Canada, the Dutch elm disease? What have you been finding out there?

Dr. MacTaggart-Cowan: The specifics on that, Mr. Chairman, would be the responsibility of the Forestry Department and the Canada Department of Agriculture. That comes under the heading of entomological research.

The universities are strengthening in this area. Before I left Simon Fraser university, we had established, with the help of a negotiated development grant from the National Research Council, one of the world's, I think best pestology groups, drawn partly from Canada Department of Agriculture and partly from abroad. So we will be training top people to the Ph.D. level in Canada to take on this important work. It will be surveyed in our survey on forestry.

Mr. Alkenbrack: Could Dr. MacTaggart-Cowan make any predictions regarding the progress being made against this disease?

Dr. MacTaggart-Cowan: Speaking now as a scientist rather than as Executive Director, Mr. Chairman, I know of no adequate cure for the Dutch elm disease, and I do not think there is any known in the world. I have looked into it from both the scientific standpoint and a very personal one, because I own a little property with some elms on it up in the Muskokas, and they are dying as fast as everybody else's. Belivee me, if I knew anything to do about it I would be doing it.

• 1655

If I could just add a supplement, I believe there are some sprays that give partial success, but you would need continuous

[*Interpretation*]

sur la pêche et la faune. J'espère que ces études seront complétées au cours de la présente année et que cela nous permettra ou bien d'attirer l'attention sur les insuffisances ou assurer à tout le monde que la science et la technologie s'appliquent bien à ces problèmes. Je suis d'accord, en effet, qu'il y a des problèmes graves dans le Nord, dont l'érosion à cause des ornières laissées par les tracteurs et l'enlèvement de la végétation de la toundra.

M. Alkenbrack: Une question de plus, monsieur le président. Je voulais savoir quelle autorité le Conseil des sciences a-t-il donné aux gouvernements, en particulier en ce qui s'applique au Centre du Canada, ce grand fléau du Centre du Canada, la maladie hollandaise de l'orme? Qu'avons-nous découvert à ce sujet?

Dr MacTaggart-Cowan: Les détails de ces efforts, monsieur le président, incomberaient au ministère des Forêts, et au ministère de l'Agriculture. Cela relève du service des recherches entomologiques.

Les universités font porter leurs efforts sur ce domaine. Avant de quitter l'Université *Simon Fraser*, nous avons établi alors, à l'aide d'une subvention négociée de recherche, du Conseil national des recherches, l'un des meilleurs groupes d'études au monde sur les insectes nuisibles, dont les membres venaient en partie du ministère de l'Agriculture, et en partie de l'étranger. Donc, nous devrons former des personnes d'un haut calibre au niveau du doctorat au Canada pour prendre en main ce travail très important. Ce travail se fera dans notre enquête sur les forêts.

M. Alkenbrack: Docteur MacTaggart-Cowan pourrait-il faire quelques prévisions au sujet du progrès des efforts qu'on fait pour lutter contre cette maladie.

Dr MacTaggart-Cowan: En tant qu'homme de sciences plutôt que comme directeur exécutif, monsieur le président, je ne connais aucun remède sûr à la maladie hollandaise. Le problème de l'orme et je ne crois pas qu'il en existe un au monde, j'ai étudié cette maladie tant du point de vue scientifique que du point de vue personnel, car je possède une petite propriété où poussent quelques ormes, dans la région du Muskokas; mes ormes sont en train de mourir aussi rapidement que ceux des autres. Si je savais quoi faire à ce sujet-là, eh bien, vous pouvez être certain que je le ferais.

Si je pouvais faire d'autre part une suggestion, je crois qu'il y a certains produits de pulvérisation qui permettent d'avoir un cer-

[*Texte*]

spraying by helicopter, so that it becomes impractical.

Mr. Ricard: Could I have a supplementary? There is a disease also on white birch. Is this controlled now?

Dr. MacTaggart-Cowan: I am sorry, Mr. Chairman, I do not know the answer to that. I know it exists. I know it is receiving attention in both the Forestry Department and Canada Department of Agriculture. I know the group I put together at Simon Fraser University was working on it. Whether there is a solution or not, I do not know.

Mr. Gundlock: Mr. Chairman, I would like to ask Dr. MacTaggart-Cowan—you mentioned something about transportation, and we were cut off very quickly. Could you explain more fully your interest in Canadian transportation, and relate it more specifically to northern transportation?

Dr. MacTaggart-Cowan: Yes, Mr. Chairman. The field of transportation in Canada over the next 20 to 30 years offers, we believe, the opportunity for developing a major program. This is where the whole of science technology and engineering as well as the social sciences, would be brought to bear on the needs for development in transportation systems, with the hope of moving Canadian industry and knowledge out ahead, so that we would not only solve our own problems but have good services and scientific expertise that could be exported. So we proposed in our Report No. 4, that transportation might be one of these major development areas.

We will be having the first meeting of the Science Council committee, which we are establishing, on May 7, and we will start looking into this in depth. I can assure you that northern transportation and marine transportation in ice-infested waters will get close attention. In fact, Mr. Gilchrist has accepted the nomination for membership on this committee, and he is one of the key people in it. And through my meteorological affiliations, I have not been unconnected with it over the last 25 years. But it is one of the important areas.

Mr. Gundlock: May I then, Mr. Chairman, ask what may be an irrelevant question? Has

[*Interprétation*]

tain succès, mais il faudrait le faire d'une façon continuelle en hélicoptère pour qu'on atteigne un certain degré d'efficacité.

M. Ricard: J'aurais une question supplémentaire. Il y a aussi une maladie qui s'attaque au bouleau blanc. Est-elle sous contrôle maintenant?

Dr MacTaggart-Cowan: Je ne sais pas, monsieur le président, je ne connais pas la réponse à cette question. Je sais que l'on étudie ce problème à la fois au ministère des Forêts et au ministère de l'Agriculture du Canada. Je sais que le groupe que j'ai dirigé à l'Université *Simon Fraser* a étudié cette question. Qu'il y ait une solution ou non, je ne le sais pas.

M. Gundlock: Monsieur le président, je voudrais poser une question au docteur McTaggart-Cowan; vous avez mentionné quelque chose au sujet du transport tantôt, mais nous avons passé trop rapidement sur le sujet. Est-ce que vous pourriez expliquer plus en détail votre intérêt pour le transport au Canada et pourriez-vous relier cela spécifiquement à la question du transport dans le Nord.

Dr MacTaggart-Cowan: Oui, monsieur le président. Le domaine du transport au Canada au cours des 20 ou 30 prochaines années offre, croyons-nous, l'occasion d'établir un programme important. C'est là toute la technologie scientifique et le génie, de même que les sciences sociales viendront aider à combler les besoins pour des systèmes améliorés de transport avec l'espoir de promouvoir l'essor des connaissances et des industries de façon que non seulement nous pourrions résoudre nos propres problèmes mais aussi acquérir de bons services et des experts en sciences que nous pourrions exporter. Donc nous avons proposé dans notre rapport nº 4, que le transport pourrait être l'un des domaines de développement les plus importants.

Nous aurons la première réunion du comité du Conseil des sciences, que nous établissons le 7 mai et nous étudierons cette question en profondeur. Je peux vous assurer que le transport dans le Nord et le transport dans les eaux où il y a beaucoup de glace, sera étudié à fond. De fait, M. Gilchrist a accepté de faire partie de ce comité et il est l'un des experts en ce domaine. A cause de mes affiliations météorologiques, je me suis toujours tenu en contact avec ces problèmes au cours des 25 dernières années. Mais c'est là l'un des domaines importants.

M. Gundlock: Monsieur le président, est-ce que je pourrais poser une question qui n'a

[*Text*]

there been any consideration for a trade, shall we say, between the Canadian government and the United States government for that 80-mile corridor from Whitehorse to the ocean, to replace what we now experience, a thousand-mile haul overland?

Dr. MacTaggart-Cowan: Mr. Chairman, I do not know the answer to that. When I was Director of the Meteorological Service. I knew there were discussions going on regarding Haines Junction, and roads and so on. But I do not know where that stands now. The Science Council is not involved in that.

Mr. Gundlock: Would you consider that in conjunction with northern transportation, a corridor through the Alaska panhandle from Whitehorse, an 80-mile corridor? It may be some sort of trade. Canada may pave the Alaska highway, for instance, in return for this corridor.

It is a very valuable thing to us. I do not rightly know, Mr. Chairman, how to put it, but certainly is should be worth a study and I think this is the proper place for it. There could be some kind of horse trade, if you want to put it that way. Certainly it is worth consideration.

• 1700

Dr. MacTaggart-Cowan: Well, Mr. Chairman, I will certainly make a note of that, and make sure it comes to the attention of the committee. I might add, I am sure that in our studies of northern transportation the interlocking interests of the United States and Canada in this field are bound to come up because from all the geological data we have, there are substantial oil reserves on the Continental Shelf of both the Canadian and United States northern slopes. And the question arises of how that will be brought down to the markets of the world, and if a tanker going through the Northwest Passage will be of interest to both countries. Building a pipeline in that country may well involve expertise on both sides, concerning where the route of such a pipeline would be.

Mr. Gundlock: This would cut off a thousand miles...

Dr. MacTaggart-Cowan: Yes.

[*Interpretation*]

rien à voir avec le sujet? Est-ce qu'on a envisagé de faire des échanges dirons-nous, entre le gouvernement canadien et celui des États-Unis, au sujet de ce corridor de 80 milles, de Whitehorse à l'Océan, pour remplacer ce que nous connaissons maintenant, un transport d'un millier de milles sur terre.

M. MacTaggart-Cowan: Monsieur le président, je ne connais pas la réponse à cela. Lorsque j'étais directeur des services météorologiques, je savais qu'il y avait des discussions qui avaient lieu au sujet de la jonction Haines, les routes etc. Mais je ne sais pas où cela en est rendu maintenant. Le Conseil des sciences ne s'occupe pas de cette question.

M. Gundlock: Seriez-vous prêt à étudier en rapport avec le transport dans le Nord, le creusage d'un corridor à travers l'Alaska à partir de Whitehorse, un corridor de 80 milles? Ce pourrait être sous forme d'un échange. Le Canada pourrait paver la grande route de l'Alaska, par exemple, en retour de ce corridor.

C'est quelque chose qui serait de grande valeur pour nous. Je ne sais pas exactement comment m'exprimer, monsieur le président, mais je suis certain que ce problème devrait faire l'objet d'une étude et je crois que c'est ici le meilleur endroit pour ce faire. Il pourrait y avoir une sorte de marchandage si je puis m'exprimer ainsi. Cela vaut sûrement la peine qu'on s'y intéresse.

M. MacTaggart-Cowan: Eh bien, M. le Président, je vais certainement prendre cela en note et je vais veiller à ce que cela soit porté à l'attention du Comité. Je pourrais ajouter que je suis certain que dans nos études sur le transport dans le Nord, les intérêts mutuels qui unissent étroitement le Canada et les États-Unis en ce domaine seront portés à l'ordre du jour, car d'après toutes les données géologiques dont nous disposons, il y a là des ressources considérables en pétrole sur le «Continental Shelf» tant du côté des pentes américaines que du côté canadien. La question se pose, à savoir comment ce pétrole sera amené sur les marchés et si un navire-citerne passant par le Passage du Nord-ouest intéressera les deux pays. Pour construire un pipeline dans cette région, cela exigerait peut-être des études d'experts des deux côtés, pour voir par quelle route devrait passer ce pipeline.

M. Gundlock: Cela éliminerait mille milles...

M. MacTaggart-Cowan: Oui, à peu près.

[*Texte*]

Mr. Gundlock: ...if we could be real—how do you put—diplomats.

The Chairman: Mr. McCutcheon.

Mr. McCutcheon: Thank you. My question is really just a supplemental one about our questioning in connection with the Dutch Elm disease, if we can come back to this. You paint a pretty black picture, particularly for the people of south-western Ontario, to the effect that the elm is gone. There is also fear amongst the people down there, through, I presume, lack of knowledge, that this disease may affect other trees, and, in fact, it has been suggested that it affects the maple as well. Are you in a position to assure us, so that people will not be concerned about the loss of the maple due to this disease?

Dr. MacTaggart-Cowan: Mr. Chairman, this is really out of my scientific field. I am a mathematician, a physicist, and a meteorologist, not an entomologist. To the best of my knowledge the answer is no, that this is peculiar to the Dutch elm. However, now that you have raised it, sir, I will find out and I will communicate with the Clerk informally.

Mr. McCutcheon: I would appreciate it, sir. Doctor, there is great concern amongst people, particularly in areas where there are maples, that to lose the elms is bad enough, but to lose the maples would be a complete disaster.

Dr. MacTaggart-Cowan: I have maple in close proximity to the elm on my own small piece of property and the maple are quite healthy. But this does not prove anything positively. However, I will get that answer and communicate with the clerk.

Mr. McCutcheon: That would be much appreciated, sir.

Dr. MacTaggart-Cowan: But I know of no connection.

The Chairman: Mr. Robinson.

Mr. Robinson: I notice, Mr. Chairman, in the 1966-67 first Annual Report, on page 4, there is a chart indicating what certain countries have spent on research and development, and it indicates that Canada has spent roughly 1 per cent of the gross national product on research and development, which is about half that spent by the U.K. and about one-third of that spent by the United States. Is this realistic? Do you see any change being made in this percentage? Do you think there should be a change, or what are your views on this matter?

[*Interprétation*]

M. Gunlock: ...si nous étions, comment dirai-je, de vrais diplomates.

Le président: Monsieur McCutcheon.

M. McCutcheon: Merci. Je voudrais simplement poser une question supplémentaire au sujet de la maladie hollandaise de l'orme. Vous nous avez brossé un tableau assez noir de cette situation surtout dans le sud-ouest de l'Ontario où il semblerait que l'orme soit disparu. Les gens dans cette région semblent craindre peut-être à cause d'un manque de connaissance, que cette maladie peut affecter d'autres arbres. De fait, il a été suggéré qu'elle affecte l'érable aussi. Pouvez-vous nous rassurer pour que les gens ne s'inquiètent pas de la perte des érables à cause de cette maladie?

M. MacTaggart-Cowan: Monsieur le président, c'est hors de mon domaine scientifique. Je suis un mathématicien, un physicien et un météorologue, non un entomologiste. En autant que je sache, la réponse est «non». Cette maladie se rapporte à l'orme hollandais surtout. Mais si vous désirez avoir une réponse, je peux m'informer et communiquer avec le Secrétaire.

M. McCutcheon: Je vous en saurais gré. Docteur, les gens qui possèdent des érables craignent grandement de perdre leur érables après leurs ormes. Ce serait un vrai désastre pour eux.

M. MacTaggart-Cowan: J'ai des ormes tout près des érables sur ma propre propriété et les érables sont en excellente santé. Mais cela ne prouve rien. Toutefois, je vais obtenir cette réponse et je la communiquerai au Secrétaire.

M. McCutcheon: Je l'apprécierais beaucoup.

M. MacTaggart-Cowan: Mais je ne suis au courant d'aucun rapport.

Le président: Monsieur Robinson.

M. Robinson: Je remarque, monsieur le président, au graphique à la page 4 du premier rapport annuel 1968-1969, que certains pays consacrent 3 pour cent de leur produit national brut à la recherche et au développement alors que le Canada n'en consacre que 1 p. 100 à peu près, soit à peu près la moitié de ce que dépense le Royaume-Uni et un tiers de ce que dépense les États-Unis. Est-ce réaliste? Prévoyez-vous un changement dans ce pourcentage? Croyez-vous qu'il devrait y avoir un changement, et quelles sont vos vues à ce sujet?

[*Text*]

Dr. MacTaggart-Cowan: Mr. Chairman, the percentage of GNP spent on research and development of itself is really not a useful measure of whether you are applying science and technology well.

• 1705

However, after the moneys have been allotted by parliament to support mission oriented research, to support research in the universities, to run the national labs, on a basis of rational judgment, then calculating that as a percentage of GNP is a useful sort of yardstick, and because it has been examined in all technically advanced countries, The Science Council is concerned about this because having done this arithmetic we find it is standing pretty well static at 1.3.

With the imbalance that we have between industrial R&D, R&D within the government and R&D in universities, where the R&D in industry is out of balance, it is far too small. If that were being corrected then it should be reflected as an increase in the percentage of GNP.

Mr. Robinson: As far as the research by industry is concerned in Canada, is this imbalance because of the research orientation that Canadians, shall we say, have in the United States where a lot of this is done by the private sector?

Dr. MacTaggart-Cowan: That is a partial answer. It is used more as an excuse than an answer, because when you look at the amount of research done by certain foreign-owned Canadian industry, they do more than the national industrial average. Certainly, for the size of some of them, one would expect them to do more. One of the things the Science Council is doing now is examining what are the disincentives that are preventing this being done.

Part of it may be corporate policy, but again, to the extent to which our investigations have gone, that might be used as a comfortable excuse but we do not think it is a full reason.

Mr. Robinson: One of the areas of concern too is the fact that this graph seems to indicate that in the United States, for instance, about three-quarters of the research is done by industry but a great portion of it is paid for by the government. Yet the same thing does not seem to apply in Canada.

Dr. MacTaggart-Cowan: This is correct. Our third Annual Report, Mr. Chairman, which will be out in June will have quite a

[*Interpretation*]

M. MacTaggart-Cowan: Monsieur le président, le pourcentage du produit national brut dépensé pour la recherche et le développement n'est pas une mesure utile pour établir si l'on fait bon usage de la science et de la technologie.

Cependant, après que le Parlement a voté des crédits pour appuyer la recherche planifiée, la recherche dans les universités et l'exploitation des laboratoires nationaux, on peut faire un emploi rationnel du pourcentage du produit national brut comme mesure utile car il a été employé dans tous les pays avancés en technologie. Le Conseil des sciences du Canada s'intéresse à cette question car, après avoir fait ces calculs, nous constatons que notre pourcentage demeure passablement stable à 1.3.

Il est beaucoup trop petit si l'on tient compte du déséquilibre entre l'investissement R & D de l'industrie, du gouvernement même et des universités car celui de l'industrie est bien supérieur. Si l'on corrigeait ce déséquilibre, il en résulterait un accroissement dans le pourcentage du produit national brut.

M. Robinson: En autant que la recherche par l'industrie canadienne est concernée, le déséquilibre tient-il au fait que l'orientation de notre recherche est faite par le secteur privé qui est influencé par les États-Unis?

M. MacTaggart-Cowan: Cela ne répond que partiellement à la question. C'est plutôt une excuse qu'une réponse. Si vous prenez le volume de recherches que font certaines industries canadiennes sous domination étrangère, il est supérieur à la moyenne industrielle nationale. Mais il est certain que nous pouvons nous attendre à plus si nous considérons la taille de certaines. Le Conseil des sciences étudie quels facteurs découragent la recherche dans ces industries.

Une partie pourrait dépendre de la politique des sociétés, mais en autant que nos enquêtes le démontrent, ceci pourrait servir d'excuse facile mais nous ne pensons pas qu'elle soit l'unique cause.

M. Robinson: Ce qui me préoccupe, c'est que, selon le graphique, presque les trois-quarts de la recherche est faite par l'industrie mais que le gouvernement en paie la majeure partie. Mais il n'en est pas de même au Canada.

M. MacTaggart-Cowan: C'est très juste. Le troisième rapport annuel, monsieur le président, sera publié en juin et révèlera bien des

[*Texte*]

bit to say about this. The recently released figures by DBS—I think they were released last week—confirms the work that was being done by my own staff. The increase in the number of dollars spent on R&D in industry, in the last two years is 4 per cent and 5 per cent.

I am quoting from memory and could be a fraction out, but this is the order of magnitude. The inflation and sophistication factor, which is really the gross inflation and the cost of doing research, has gone up a little over 6 per cent, so that in point of fact the amount of research has decreased in spite of the government incentive efforts. The effort has been very genuine, but they have not produced a reversal in the trend.

Mr. Robinson: I will be looking forward to seeing your report.

Dr. MacTaggart-Cowan: Just before I came over here, Mr. Chairman, I was having a discussion with my colleagues who are working on this. This is a worrisome thing because the government initiated a number of incentive programs, put modest amounts of money in there, and the result does not appear to have been what was desired. In other words, the total number of effective man hours of research in industry has gone down. Even though the dollar value has gone up, it has gone up a smaller amount than the inflation as sophistication is required.

Mr. Robinson: Just to change to another subject. You indicated that your Department

• 1710

was doing a great deal of work in the marine field. Is your Department considering anything with regard to harnessing the power potential in the Bay of Fundy?

Dr. MacTaggart-Cowan: Our job is to review what the scientists and the bench are doing. In other words, the doing of the research on how to extract power out of the Bay of Fundy is not us. We see it as a matter of interest and concern, so that when we survey the marine sciences field one of the things we will be looking for is, is there enough research and development in engineering being done in physical oceanography, which is the discipline underlying that, to make sure that the answers will come forward. We do not operate labs or research stations. Our job is to look at what the scientists and technologists are doing to see if it is being effectively done, and if it is properly funded to reach these social and economic goals.

[*Interprétation*]

choses à ce sujet. Les chiffres publiés récemment par BFS—la semaine dernière, je crois—confirment le travail fait par mon propre personnel. L'accroissement des dépenses en recherche et développement dans l'industrie ont augmenté de 4 p. 100 et 5 p. 100 au cours des deux dernières années.

Si je me fie à ma mémoire, c'est à peu près cela. L'inflation et le coût des recherches se sont accrus par un peu plus de 6 p. 100, ce qui veut dire qu'en fait, la somme consacrée à la recherche a diminué même si le gouvernement a tenté d'encourager la recherche. L'effort a été réel mais il n'a pas permis de renverser la tendance.

M. Robinson: J'attend votre rapport avec impatience.

M. MacTaggart-Cowan: Monsieur le président, juste avant de me rendre ici, j'ai eu une discussion avec mes collègues qui travaillent sur cette question. C'est assez troublant car le gouvernement a amorcé un certain nombre de programmes d'encouragement à la recherche et y a consacré de modestes sommes mais les résultats ne sont pas ce qu'on en comptait. En d'autres mots, le nombre total d'heures-homme consacrées à la recherche dans l'industrie a diminué. Même si la valeur monétaire elle a augmenté moins rapidement que l'inflation et le coût des richesses.

M. Robinson: Pour enchaîner avec un autre sujet, vous avez indiqué que votre ministère

faisait beaucoup de recherches dans le domaine maritime. Votre ministère étudie-t-il un projet quelconque qui a trait au harnachement de l'énergie hydro-électrique de la baie de Fundy?

M. MacTaggart-Cowan: Notre travail est d'étudier ce que les scientifiques font. En d'autres mots, ce n'est pas à nous de faire les recherches sur le harnarchement de l'énergie hydro-électrique de la baie de Fundy.

Un de nos buts sera de voir s'il y a assez de recherches et de développement qui se font dans l'océnanographie physique et on souligne ceci afin d'assurer que les réponses à nos questions seront fournies. Nous n'exploitons pas de laboratoires ou de stations de recherches.

Notre travail est de voir ce que les hommes de sciences et les technologues font pour voir si la recherche se fait, si elle est satisfaisante de façon à nous permettre d'obtenir une croissante économique satisfaisante. Étant donné qu'un des co-auteurs du présent rap-

[*Text*]

As one of the two co-authors of this report that they are working on marine sciences comes from the Bedford Institute, I hope that part will not be overlooked.

The other, the principal author is the top physical oceanographer in Canada.

Le président: Monsieur Clermont.

M. Clermont: Monsieur le président, vous nous informez que c'est la première année que les crédits affectés au Conseil des sciences du Canada viennent directement, auparavant ils apparaissaient au Livre bleu du Conseil privé. Mais je remarque en regard de l'année 1968-1969, à la page 301, une somme de $377,900, et il n'y a aucune explication.

Le président: Quel montant dites-vous?

M. Clermont: A la page 301 du Livre bleu, je vois une somme de $377,900, pour l'année 1968-1969, pour laquelle on ne donne aucune explication.

Le président: Sans détail.

M. Clermont: Oui.

Dr. MacTaggart-Cowan: Yes, Mr. Chairman. As part of the Privy Council estimates, they did show an item for special studies conducted on behalf of the Science Council. These special studies would be such as the one on marine sciences I was just talking about. So that that $377,900 was shown in the previous estimates to cover the special studies. $75,000 of that $377,900, was to cover the general expenses of the meetings of the Science Council and the travel of those who serve on the Science Council.

Mr. Clermont: I see, Mr. Chairman.

The Chairman: Gentlemen, I wish to thank the witnesses. It is unfortunate we have lost our quorum so that we cannot carry those votes. I do not believe we will need you anymore. I think all the members are pretty well satisfied with your answers. We wish to thank you very much. Your vote will be carried when we have a quorum at the next sitting.

The next sitting will take place next Tuesday afternoon at 3:30 o'clock in room 371, when we will study the estimates of the House of Commons, General Administration, Department of Supply and Services, page 382, and the Public Service Commission.

[*Interpretation*]

port sur les sciences maritimes provient du Bedford Institute, j'espère que l'on ne regardera pas trop à fond cette question.

L'autre, l'auteur principal, est de première classe en océanographie physique au Canada.

The Chairman: Mr. Clermont.

Mr. Clermont: Mr. Chairman. You inform us this is the first year that the estimates for the Science Council come directly. Formerly, they appeared in the Blue Book under the Privy Council. I see that for 1968-69, on page 301, a sum of $377,900, and there is no explanation whatsoever.

The Chairman: What amount did you say?

Mr. Clermont: On page 301 of the Blue Book, I see an amount of $377,900 for the year 1968-69, for which there is no explanation.

The Chairman: No details.

Mr. Clermont: Yes.

M. MacTaggart-Cowan: Oui, monsieur le président, lorsque ce budget a été décrit dans le Livre bleu du Conseil privé, on parlait des études spéciales qui étaient faites au nom du Conseil des sciences. Ces études spéciales étaient semblables à celles sur l'océanographie physique dont je viens de vous parler. Alors cette somme de $377,900 était indiquée dans le budget précédent et on y révèle qu'elle portait sur des études spéciales. $75,000 sur ce $377,900 devaient couvrir les dépenses générales pour les réunions du Conseil des sciences et pour le déplacement des savants de sciences qui sont membres du Conseil des sciences.

M. Clermont: Je comprends, M. le président.

Le président: Eh bien, messieurs, j'aimerais remercier les témoins. Malheureusement, nous avons perdu notre quorum, nous ne pouvons plus nous occuper de votes. Je ne pense pas qu'on ait encore besoin de vous. Je suis certain que tous les membres sont assez satisfaits de vos réponses. Nous vous remercions beaucoup. Votre crédit sera adopté lorsque nous aurons un quorum à la prochaine réunion, qui aura lieu mardi prochain à 15h30 à la salle 371. Nous y étudierons les prévisions budgétaires de l'administration générale de la Chambre des communes, aussi que les services d'approvisionnement, à la page 382 et la Commission de la Fonction publique.

[*Texte*]

They were here this afternoon, but of course we did not have time to deal with their estimates. We will call only three departments, to make sure witnesses do not have to return.

We will let you know about the visit to the National Research Council. Thank you very much.

Meeting is adjourned.

[*Interprétation*]

La Commission de la Fonction publique était présente ici cet après-midi mais nous n'avons pas eu le temps de les entendre et d'étudier leurs prévisions budgétaires. Nous avons trois ministères dont nous étudierons les crédits afin d'éviter de faire revenir des témoins.

Alors nous vous reparlerons de cette visite au Conseil national des recherches. Merci beaucoup.

La séance est levée.

APPENDICE «B»

MINISTER OF
INDIAN AFFAIRS AND
NORTHERN DEVELOPMENT

Monsieur Fernand-E. Leblanc, député
Président du Comité permanent des prévisions budgétaires en général
Chambre des Communes
Ottawa (Ontario)

Cher monsieur Leblanc,

Au cours de l'étude du budget supplémentaire (B) à la réunion du Comité permanent des prévisions budgétaires en général, vous m'avez demandé certains renseignements au sujet du programme d'aide aux prospecteurs. Ayant pris les mesures voulues pour donnner suite à notre demande, je puis maintenant vous fournir les précisions suivantes:

Le programme d'aide aux prospecteurs, qui relève de la Direction de l'expansion économique du Nord et qui a une portée plutôt restreinte, est tout à fait distinct du programme de subventions d'aide au développement; il ne figure pas au chapitre auquel on a affecté $900,000. En vertu de ce programme, une somme annuelle de $60,000 est mise à la disposition des petits prospecteurs qui désirent effectuer des travaux d'exploration dans l'une des deux régions administratives du Nord, mais jusqu'à concurrence de $900 par prospecteur.

Espérant que ces renseignements constituent une réponse favorable à votre question inscrite à la page 222 des Procès-verbaux et Témoignages (nº 9), je vous prie d'agréer, cher monsieur, l'expression de mes sentiments les meilleurs.

Sincèrement,
Jean Chrétien.

APPENDIX «B»

Mr. Fernand-E. Leblanc, M.P.,
President of the Standing Committee on Miscellaneous Estimates,
House of Commons,
Ottawa, Ontario.

Dear Sir:

During the Standing Committee on Miscellaneous Estimates' discussion of the Supplementary Estimates (B), you asked for some information on the program of grants to prospectors. After taking steps to follow-up your request, I can now provide you with the following information.

The program of grants to prospectors comes under the Northern Economic Development Branch; it has a rather limited scope and is altogether separate from the development assistance grants program; it is not include in the item to which $900,000 were granted. Under this program, a sum of $60,000 is made available annually to the small prospectors who wish to carry-out prospection in one of the two Northern administration areas, with a maximum grant of $900 per prospector.

I hope that this information is satisfactory and answers your question on page 222 of the *Minutes of Proceedings and Evidence* (Issue 9), I remain,

Yours very truly,
Jean Chrétien.

OFFICIAL BILINGUAL ISSUE

HOUSE OF COMMONS

First Session

Twenty-eighth Parliament, 1968-69

FASCICULE BILINGUE OFFICIEL

CHAMBRE DES COMMUNES

Première session de la

vingt-huitième législature, 1968-1969

STANDING COMMITTEE ON

MISCELLANEOUS ESTIMATES

COMITÉ PERMANENT DES

PRÉVISIONS BUDGÉTAIRES EN GÉNÉRAL

Chairman M. Fernand E. Leblanc *Président*

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS AND EVIDENCE

PROCÈS-VERBAUX ET TÉMOIGNAGES

No. 16

TUESDAY, APRIL 22, 1969

LE MARDI 22 AVRIL 1969

Respecting

The items listed in the Main Estimates 1969-70, relating to the House of Commons, the Department of Supply and Services.

Concernant

Les postes énumérés au budget principal de 1969-1970, concernant la Chambre des communes, le ministère des Approvisionnements et Services.

WITNESSES—TÉMOINS

(See Minutes of Proceedings) *(Voir Procès-verbaux)*

THE QUEEN'S PRINTER, OTTAWA, 1969
L'IMPRIMEUR DE LA REINE, OTTAWA, 1969

20162—1

STANDING COMMITTEE
ON
MISCELLANEOUS ESTIMATES

COMITÉ PERMANENT
DES
PRÉVISIONS BUDGÉTAIRES
EN GÉNÉRAL

Chairman: M. Fernand-E. Leblanc *Président.*
Vice-Chairman: Mr. Jack Cullen *Vice-président.*

and Messrs. et MM.

Alkenbrack,
Cafik,
Clermont,
Dinsdale,
Dumont,
Goode,
Gundlock,
LeBlanc (*Rimouski*),
Mather,
[31]Marchand (*Kamloops-Cariboo*),
McCutcheon,
Noël,
Paproski,
Penner,
Ricard,
Robinson,
Rochon,
Thomson (*Battleford-Kindersley*)—20.

Le secrétaire du Comité,
D. E. Levesque
Clerk of the Committee.

Pursuant to S.O. 65(4)(*b*)

[31]Replaced Mr. Roy (*Timmins*) on April 22, 1969

Conformément à l'article 65(4)(*b*) du Règlement

[31]Remplace M. Roy (*Timmins*) le 22 avril 1969

WEDNESDAY, April 23, 1969.

The Standing Committee on Miscellaneous Estimates has the honour to present its

SEVENTH REPORT

1. Pursuant to its Order of Reference of Thursday, February 20, 1969, your Committee has considered the following items listed in the Main Estimates 1969-70:

Vote 20 relating to the House of Commons;

Vote 20 relating to the Science Council of Canada;

Votes 1, 5, 15 and 20 relating to the Department of Supply and Services.

Your Committee commends them to the House.

2. Your Committee recommends:

a) that the 7% bonus paid to qualified bilingual employees in the Public Service should be granted as well to all the bilingual employees of the House of Commons;

b) that Members of Parliament should be supplied with the services of a secretary, all the year round;

c) that the allowance paid to Members of Parliament using their automobiles for transportation should be increased from seven cents (7c.) to twelve cents (12c.) per mile;

d) that the authorities of the House of Commons should review the status of all the employees in the offices of the Whips of the different parties.

A copy of the relevant Minutes of Proceedings and Evidence (*Issue No. 16*) is tabled.

Le MERCREDI 23 avril 1969.

Le Comité permanent des prévisions budgétaires en général a l'honneur de présenter son

SEPTIÈME RAPPORT

1. Conformément à l'ordre de renvoi du jeudi 20 février 1969, le Comité a examiné les postes suivants du budget principal 1969-1970:

Le crédit n° 20 concernant la Chambre des communes;

Le crédit n° 20 concernant le Conseil des Sciences du Canada;

Les crédits n°s 1, 5, 15 et 20 concernant le ministère des Approvisionnements et Services.

Le Comité les recommande à l'approbation de la Chambre.

2. Le Comité recommande:

a) que la prime de 7 p. 100 accordée aux employés bilingues qualifiés de la Fonction publique devrait aussi être accordée à tous les employés bilingues de la Chambre des communes;

b) que l'on devrait assurer aux députés les services d'une secrétaire, toute l'année durant.

c) que l'indemnité versée aux députés qui se déplacent dans leur propre automobile devrait passer de sept cents (7c.) à douze cents (12c.) du mille.

d) que les autorités de la Chambre des communes devraient procéder à une revision du rang de tous les employés des bureaux des whips des différents partis.

Un exemplaire des procès-verbaux et témoignages s'y rapportant (*fascicule n° 16*) est déposé.

Respectueusement soumis,
Le président,
FERNAND E. LEBLANC.
Respectfully submitted,
Chairman.

20162—1½

[*Text*]

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

TUESDAY, April 22, 1969
(17)

The Standing Committee on Miscellaneous Estimates met this day at 3:30 p.m. The Chairman, Mr. Fernand Leblanc, presided.

Members present: Messrs. Cafik, Clermont, Cullen, Dumont, Gundlock, Leblanc (*Laurier*), LeBlanc (*Rimouski*), Mather, Marchand (*Kamloops-Cariboo*), McCutcheon, Noël, Penner, Ricard, Rochon, Thomson (*Battleford-Kindersley*) (15).

Also present: Messrs. Pilon, Roy (*Timmins*), Prud'homme, O'Connell, Marceau and Emard.

Appearing: The Honourable D. C. Jamieson, Minister of Supply and Services and Receiver General, and Mr. Alistair Fraser, Clerk of the House of Commons.

Witnesses: From the House of Commons: Mr. C. M. DeSalaberry, Director of Administration. *From the Department of Supply and Services:* Mr. J. W. Hunter, Deputy Minister (Supply), Mr. H. R. Balls, Deputy Minister (Services) and Mr. J. S. Glassford, Deputy Minister (Purchasing).

The Chairman informed the Committee that it did not have a Vice-Chairman and asked for nomination to elect one.

Mr. Cafik moved and it was

Agreed,—That Mr. Jack Cullen be elected Vice-Chairman of this Committee.

The Committee resumed consideration of Item 20, General Administration $10,003,700 relating to the House of Commons.

After discussion, the following items were carried:

House of Commons Item 20, General Administration; Science Council of Canada Item 20, General Administration.

The Chairman thanked Messrs. Fraser and DeSalaberry and they retired.

The Chairman called Item (1) General Administration, of the Estimates 1969-70

[*Traduction*]

PROCÈS-VERBAL

Le MARDI 22 avril 1969
(17)

Le Comité permanent des prévisions budgétaires en général se réunit à 15 h. 30 cet après-midi sous la présidence de M. Fernand Leblanc, président.

Présents: MM. Cafik, Clermont, Cullen, Dumont, Gundlock, Leblanc (*Laurier*), LeBlanc (*Rimouski*), Mather, Marchand (*Kamloops-Cariboo*), McCutcheon, Noël, Penner, Ricard, Rochon, et Thomson (*Battleford-Kindersley*) (15).

De même que: MM. Pilon, Roy (*Timmins*), Prud'homme, O'Connell, Marceau et Émard.

A comparu: L'honorable D. C. Jamieson, ministre des Approvisionnements et Services et Receveur général, et M. Alistair Fraser, Greffier de la Chambre des Communes.

Témoins: De la Chambre des Communes: M. C. M. DeSalaberry, directeur de l'administration. *Du ministère des Approvisionnements et Services:* M. J. W. Hunter, sous-ministre (approvisionnements), M. J. S. Glassford, sous-ministre (achats), et M. H. R. Balls, sous-ministre (services).

Le président informe le Comité que le poste de vice-président est vacant et demande des mises en nomination en vue d'en élire un.

M. Cafik propose et

il est convenu,—que M. Jack Cullen soit élu vice-président du Comité.

Le Comité reprend l'étude du crédit 20, Administration générale, $10,003,700, de la Chambre des Communes.

Après débat, les postes suivants sont adoptés:

Chambre des Communes, poste 20, Administration générale; Conseil des sciences du Canada, poste 20, Administration générale.

Le président remercie MM. Fraser et DeSalaberry qui se retirent.

Le président met à l'étude le poste 1, Administration générale, du Budget des

of the Department of Supply and Services and introduced Messrs. Hunter and Balls, Deputy Ministers.

The Committee proceeded to the questioning of the witnesses pending the arrival of the Minister.

The Minister arrived, made a statement and answered questions.

The following items relating to the Department of Supply and Services were carried:

Item (1), General Administration $3,992,000;

Item 5, Administration (Supply) $21,289,000;

Item 15, Administration (Services) $35,000,000;

Item 20, Administration (Printing, etc.) $4,252,000.

At 6:10 p.m., the Committee adjourned to Thursday, April 24, 1969.

dépenses 1969-1970 du ministère des Approvisionnements et Services, et présente MM. Hunter et Balls, sous-ministres.

Le Comité commence à interroger les témoins en attendant l'arrivée du ministre.

Le ministre arrive, présente un exposé et répond aux questions.

Les postes suivants relatifs au ministère des Approvisionnements et Services sont adoptés:

Poste 1. Administration générale, $3,992,000;

Poste 5. Administration (approvisionnements), $21,289,000;

Poste 15. Administration (services), $35,000,000.

Poste 20. Administration (Impressions, etc.), $4,252,000.

A 18 h. 10 le Comité s'ajourne jusqu'au jeudi 24 avril 1969.

Le secrétaire du Comité,
D. E. Levesque,
Clerk of the Committee.

[*Texte*]

EVIDENCE

(*Recorded by Electronic Apparatus*)

Tuesday, 22 April, 1969

• 1530

The Chairman: Gentlemen, please, this meeting will come to order. First of all, I would like to mention that the Clerk, Mr. D. E. Levesque sent you an invitation for Thursday, April 24. The letter reads as follows:

> The Committee has accepted an invitation to visit the National Research Council on Montreal Road, Ottawa, on THURSDAY, APRIL 24, 1969.
>
> Transportation will be provided and the departure will be from in front of the Peace Tower at 9.15 a.m. and the return will be around noon.
>
> At 3.30 p.m. on the same day, the Committee will study the N.R.C. estimates.

Will you please reply to the Clerk so we can make sure that we have the necessary transportation facilities.

At the last meeting you expressed the wish to hear once more Mr. de Salaberry regarding the Estimates of the House of Commons Vote 20, General Administration $10,003,700.

With M. Charles de Salaberry, Director of Administration of the House of Commons, we also have as a witness Mr. Alistair Fraser, Clerk of the House of Commons. I do not believe there is any need for any preliminary statements as all the statements were made at the last meeting. Is there anyone who would like to question the witnesses? Mr. Ricard.

M. Ricard: Monsieur le président, je voudrais d'abord établir au début de mes remarques que je ne voudrais pas, au cours des quelques minutes qui vont suivre, blâmer ou critiquer qui que ce soit, mais simplement faire valoir un point de vue qui m'a été présenté, et faire tout en mon possible pour corriger ce que je considère comme une injustice. En 1966 le premier ministre du temps, le très honorable Pearson accordait une prime pour les employés bilingues. J'ai ici le texte. Il n'établissait pas le fait d'une façon définitive stipulait qu'il était convenu qu'une prime additionnelle devrait être accor-

[*Interprétation*]

TÉMOIGNAGES

(*Enregistrement électronique*)

Le mardi 22 avril 1969.

Le président: La séance est ouverte. Je voudrais d'abord mentionner que le greffier, M. D. E. Lévesque, vous a envoyé une invitation pour jeudi le 24 avril. Le texte de cette lettre est le suivant:

> Le Comité a accepté une invitation à visiter le Conseil national de recherches, chemin de Montréal, à Ottawa, le JEUDI 24 AVRIL 1969.
>
> Le transport est assuré. Le départ se fera en face de la Tour de la Paix, à 9 h. 15 du matin, et le retour, vers midi.
>
> Ce même jour, à 3 h. 30 de l'après-midi, le Comité se réunira pour étudier les prévisions budgétaires du Conseil national des recherches.

Auriez-vous l'obligeance de communiquer votre réponse au greffier afin que nous puissions faire le nécessaire pour le transport.

A la dernière réunion, vous avez exprimé le désir d'entendre encore une fois monsieur de Salaberry au sujet des crédits de la Chambre des communes, crédit 20, administration générale $10,003,700.

Monsieur de Salaberry est directeur de l'Administration de la Chambre des communes; est ici aussi, monsieur Alister Fraser, greffier de la Chambre des communes. Je pense qu'il n'y a pas lieu de faire de déclaration préliminaire étant donné que toutes les déclarations ont été faites à la dernière réunion. Aussi, si quelqu'un veut maintenant interroger les témoins, je cède la parole à M. Ricard.

Mr. Ricard: Mr. Chairman, first of all at the beginning of my comments, let me state clearly that in the few minutes that will follow I do not wish to blame anyone or to criticize anyone, I simply wish to present the view that has been expressed to me and to do my very best to correct what I consider an injustice. In 1966, the Honourable Mr. Pearson, who was Prime Minister at the time, established a premium for bilingual employees and I have here the text. Well that is to say he did not establish this in a final way, but it was agreed that an additional bonus or premium should be granted to employees and

[*Text*]

dée aux employés de bureau et aux secrétaires bilingues. Et dans le hansard du 6 avril 1966, et est dit ceci:

> Il a été convenu en principe qu'un taux de salaire plus élevé serait accordé à l'avenir à ceux qui remplissent des fonctions d'employés de bureau et de secrétaire qui demandent une connaissance des deux langues et leur utilisation dans l'exécution de telles fonctions, à condition que les titulaires de ces postes satisfassent aux normes de compétence établies par la Commission du service civil.

Il y a différentes questions que j'aimerais poser à M. de Salaberry. Tout d'abord, je voudrais savoir quels sont les critères utilisés pour déterminer qu'une secrétaire est bilingue, aux termes de la déclaration de M. Pearson faite le 6 avril 1966.

M. de Salaberry (Directeur de l'Administration): A la Fonction publique, monsieur le président.

M. Ricard: Nulle part dans sa.. Oui, à la Fonction publique, mais j'interprète la déclaration de M. Pearson comme devant s'appliquer à toute secrétaire de la Chambre des communes ou de la fonction publique. Ai-je tort ou raison?

M. de Salaberry: Je pense que cela s'applique simplement aux employés de la Fonction publique, monsieur Ricard.

M. Ricard: Ne pensez-vous pas, monsieur, que s'il en avait été ainsi, le premier ministre aurait dit spécifiquement que la mesure qu'il proposait s'appliquait uniquement aux employés de la Fonction publique et non, comme il le disait, aux employés de bureau et secrétaires.

• 1535

M. de Salaberry: Le document qui a autorisé le paiement d'une «prime au bilinguisme» est l'arrêté en conseil n° 654237 du 20 octobre 1966, qui s'applique seulement à la Fonction publique, et simplement aux secrétaires, aux dactylographes et aux sténographes de la Fonction publique. Les directives ne s'appliquent pas aux commis.

M. Ricard: Pourquoi cette différence, monsieur? Il me semble que donner cette interprétation à la déclaration de monsieur Pearson, revient à reconnaître deux sortes de bilinguisme, une qui s'applique et l'autre qui ne s'applique pas. Personnellement, je pense que c'est le désir de tout le monde de voir le bilinguisme s'établir partout et de le reconnaître partout où il est.

M. de Salaberry: Monsieur Ricard, je n'essaie pas d'interpréter, ce serait hors de mes

[*Interpretation*]

secretaries who were bilingual and according to Hansard dated April 6, 1966 we can read this:

> It has been agreed in principle that a higher rate of pay will be paid in future in respect of clerical and secretarial position in which there is the requirement for a knowledge of both languages and where both are used in the performance of duties, providing the incumbents of such positions meet standards of competence established by the Civil Service Commission.

Now there are various questions that I would like to ask Mr. De Salaberry. First of all I would like to know what criteria are used to determine whether a secretary is bilingual in conformity with the statement made by Mr. Pearson on April 6, 1966.

Mr. de Salaberry (Director of Administration): In the Public Service, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. Ricard: Nowhere in his... Yes, I am talking about the Public Service, but I interpret this statement as applying to all the secretaries within the House of Commons or the Public Service. Is that right or wrong?

Mr. de Salaberry: I think this applies only to the employees of the Public Service, Mr. Ricard.

Mr. Ricard: Do you not think that if that was the case the Prime Minister would have specified it. He would have said specifically that this measure would apply only to the Public Service and not as he said to office employees and secretaries.

Mr. de Salaberry: The document which authorized the payment of a premium for bilingualism is Order in Council No. 654237 of October 20, 1966, which applies only to the Public Service and only to secretaries, typists and stenographers within the Public Service. The instructions do not apply to clerks.

Mr. Ricard: Why this difference, sir? It seems to me that to give this interpretation to Mr. Pearson's statement is the same as recognizing two kinds of bilingualism, one that applies and one that does not. Personally I think that it is the wish of everyone to have bilingualism everywhere and to recognize it everywhere.

Mr. de Salaberry: Mr. Ricard, I think it does not come under my responsibility to

[*Texte*]

responsabilités d'interpréter la déclaration de monsieur Pearson. Il faudrait peut-être établir d'abord que nos employés ne sont pas régis par les règlements de la Fonction publique. Les augmentations de salaire, les conditions de travail sont établies pour les employés de la Chambre, par la Chambre, pour les employés du Sénat, par le Sénat et non pas par la Commission de la Fonction publique.

Par exemple, depuis deux ans l'an dernier, nous avons donné pour les employés de la Chambre, une augmentation aux diverses classes de secrétaires, de dactylographes, de commis, des augmentations de 6 p. 100 effectives le 1er juillet. Il en a été de même l'année d'avant. A la Fonction publique, les employés n'ont pas eu d'augmentation. Les règlements pour les employés de la Chambre sont établis et appliqués par la Commission de la régie interne.

M. Ricard: Pour quelle raison la Commission de la régie interne refuse-t-elle d'accorder la prime?

M. de Salaberry: Je dis que les règlements ayant trait aux conditions de travail incluant les salaires et les primes des employés de la Chambre des communes sont déterminés par la Commission de la régie interne. Si les employés de la Fonction publique obtiennent une augmentation de 5 p. 100, de 1 p. 100 ou pas d'augmentation, cela ne veut pas dire que les employés de la Chambre n'auront pas d'augmentation ou auront le même pourcentage d'augmentation. Les règlements, les conditions de travail sont déterminés par la Commission de la régie interne, non pas par le Conseil du trésor.

M. Ricard: D'après vous, monsieur de Salaberry, la Commission de la régie interne serait le corps qui décide de l'acceptation ou du refus d'accorder la prime?

M. de Salaberry: Qui fixe les conditions de travail, oui, monsieur Ricard.

M. Ricard: Avez-vous déjà eu connaissance de sommes retenues lors de l'étude du budget en vue de payer cette prime de 7 p. 100?

M. de Salaberry: Non, monsieur Ricard, le budget de la Chambre est prévu pour payer les salaires ou les autres dépenses prévues par les règlements de la Chambre, et lorsque de nouveaux règlements interviennent, nous voyons à ces besoins par des crédits supplémentaires.

[*Interprétation*]

interpret the declaration made by Mr. Pearson. Perhaps the first thing to do would be to establish that our employees are now governed by the regulations of the Public Service. The increases in salary, the working conditions are established for the employees of the House by the House of Commons, for the employees of the Senate by the Senate, and not by the Public Service Commission.

For instance, for the past two years as of last year, we gave the employees of the House in the various categories of secretaries, typists, clerks, an increase of six per cent that was effective on July 1. The same happened the previous year. In the Public Service there was no increase for the employees. The rules for the employees of the House are set and enforced by the Board of Internal Economy.

Mr. Ricard: Why does the Board of Internal Economy refuse to grant the premium?

Mr. de Salaberry: What I am saying is that the regulations governing working conditions, including salaries and premiums of the employees of the House of Commons are established by the Board of Internal Economy. If the employees of the Public Service receive an increase of five or one per cent or none at all, it does not mean that the employees of the House will not have an increase or have the same increase, the same amount of increase. The regulations, the working conditions are established inside the Board of Internal Economy and not by the Treasury Board.

Mr. Ricard: So according to you, Mr. de Salaberry, the Board of Internal Economy would be the body which decides whether to grant the premium or not.

Mr. de Salaberry: It sets the working conditions, yes, Mr. Ricard.

Mr. Ricard: As far as you know has there ever been in the past any sums that were withheld during the study of the budget in order to pay this premium of seven per cent.

Mr. de Salaberry: No, Mr. Ricard, in the House the budget is set to pay the salaries and other expenses provided for in the Rules of the House and when new rules are established, we meet these needs by supplementary votes.

[*Text*]

• 1540

M. Ricard: Selon vous, nos secrétaires, à la Chambre des communes peuvent-elles espérer recevoir un jour cette prime de 7 p. 100?

M. de Salaberry: Je demanderais à monsieur Fraser qui est le greffier, de répondre.

Le président: Une seconde, s'il vous plaît. Je tiens à souligner la présence de nombreuses jolies secrétaires qui apparemment sont bien intéressées par le sujet étudié cet après-midi. Soyez les bienvenues, il y a de la place, si vous voulez venir vous asseoir, ne vous gênez pas. La salle est ouverte au public alors elle l'est également aux secrétaires puisque c'est votre cas qui est traité. Naturellement, seuls les députés peuvent poser des questions. Vous n'avez qu'à voir un député pour faire vos représentations. M. Fraser pourrait peut-être nous éclairer un petit peu sur le sujet. Vous permettez, monsieur Ricard?

M. Ricard: Certainement.

Le président: Monsieur Alistair Fraser?

Mr. A. Fraser (Clerk of the House of Commons): Mr. Chairman, and Mr. Ricard, following the various questions that were asked in the House of Commons the other day, Mr. Speaker considered this matter again, and he felt that since there was an obvious interest by certain hon. Members in this question, it would be desirable to raise it once again—it has been raised before—with the Commissioners of Internal Economy.

As Mr. de Salaberry explained, when there is an expenditure of money or an alteration in working conditions this is a matter for the commissioners who advise Mr. Speaker in this capacity. Therefore, he is in the process of convening a meeting of the commissioners to discuss the matter once again and not only will he have the views expressed by certain members in the House, which were made known to him the other day in the House, but I also will take to him, for use at that meeting the preliminary transcript of this meeting.

Mr. Ricard: Could you, Mr. Fraser, give us an idea of the date on which this meeting might take place?

Mr. Fraser: I would hope, sir, it would be within a week or ten days.

Mr. Ricard: I will pass to somebody else.

The Chairman: Mr. Cullen?

[*Interpretation*]

Mr. Ricard: According to you, can our secretaries in the House of Commons hope to get this premium of seven per cent some day?

Mr. de Salaberry: I think I will ask Mr. Fraser who is the clerk to answer this question.

The Chairman: One moment please. Let me mention the presence of many pretty secretaries who seem to be very interested in the subject this afternoon. We are very pleased to have you here. Please come forward and sit down. Do not be shy. This is for the public, therefore, for secretaries too, so please do come and sit, as your case is being discussed. Naturally, only members can ask questions. You only have to see your M.P. if you want to protest. Now, we have Mr. Fraser, perhaps he could help us and enlighten us on this matter. We have your permission, Mr. Ricard?

Mr. Ricard: Certainly.

The Chairman: Mr. Alistair Fraser?

M. Alistair Fraser (greffier): Monsieur le président et monsieur Ricard, à la suite de différentes questions qui ont été posées l'autre jour à la Chambre des communes, l'Orateur, le Président de la Chambre a étudié la question de nouveau et a jugé qu'étant donné qu'il y avait un intérêt évident de la part de certains députés à l'égard de cette question qu'il serait souhaitable de la soulever encore une fois, elle a déjà été soulevée auprès de la régie interne. Comme l'a dit M. de Salaberry, lorsqu'il y a des dépenses, des déboursés d'argent ou des changements à faire dans les conditions de travail, ce sont les commissaires qui conseillent l'Orateur dans ces cas. Par conséquent, je vous signale que dans le moment il est en train de convoquer une réunion des commissaires pour discuter de cette question encore une fois. Il veut avoir pas seulement les opinions de certains députés à la Chambre qui lui sont parvenues l'autre jour à la Chambre, mais aussi il aura une transcription préliminaire de la présente réunion.

M. Ricard: Monsieur Fraser, pouvez-vous nous donner une idée de la date où cette réunion pourra avoir lieu?

M. Fraser: Je pense que ce sera d'ici une semaine ou dix jours.

M. Ricard: Je cède à un autre.

Le président: M. Cullen?

[*Texte*]

Mr. Cullen: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. First of all, as a supplementary to the hon. Member's questions, I cannot for the life of me see this—and I speak as an English-speaking member of the House who after a while hopes to be able to at least understand French, if not to speak it—but I have heard some objection raised that it will be determined on the number of letters that go out. For example, if the member has a predominantly French-speaking constituency that this should be a criterion, or if 50 per cent of his mail goes out in French, or something of this nature. I speak as a member from a constituency which has a very small group of people who speak French, and my attitude is that if I have a bilingual secretary it is a distinct advantage to me to be able to reply by sending out only one letter, and I think that this Committee on Miscellaneous Estimates should encourage this.

We are talking about bilingualism: surely, this is just one small area. It may not be small to the parties here, but it strikes me that it is an area where we should give recognition, and I would hope to encourage secretaries who speak only English to speak French, and those who speak only French to speak English. I hope this Committee would encourage that.

My area, however, of questions, Mr. Chairman...

The Chairman: Mr. Cullen, do you mind, if it is on another subject, if we try to complete this subject.

Mr. Cullen: I am sorry.

The Chairman: I will call on you later.

Mr. Cullen: Yes, that is fine.

The Chairman: Mr. Dumont?

M. Dumont: Merci, monsieur le président. Je m'adresse à M. de Salaberry. Je suis bien d'accord avec vous lorsque vous dites qu'il y a eu des augmentations de salaire de 6 p. 100. Ainsi, vous reconnaissez la compétence des secrétaires que nous employons. Cependant, je voudrais bien situer le problème. La question que M. Richard a posée tout à l'heure, concernait les employés bilingues. Tout le monde a reçu le 6 p. 100. Mais le but de la loi qui a été adoptée était de reconnaître les employés bilingues, c'est-à-dire reconnaître le fait qu'une personne parle les deux langues, écrit les deux langues et répond en anglais et en français. Ce n'était pas l'esprit de la loi d'exempter les employés de la Chambre des communes, de la régie interne ou du Sénat.

[*Interprétation*]

M. Cullen: Merci, monsieur le président. Tout d'abord, sous forme de question supplémentaire à celle de l'autre député, je ne vois pas pourquoi, et je parle comme député de langue anglaise de la Chambre des communes qui espère d'ici peu être en mesure de comprendre le français, sinon de le parler. J'ai entendu soulever certaines objections à l'effet que tout dépendra de la quantité de lettres qui sont envoyées. Par exemple, si un député reçoit surtout, surtout un comté de langue française, 50 p. 100 de son courrier peut être envoyé dans cette langue, vous comprenez. Je suis d'un comté où il y a très peu de gens qui parlent français, et si j'ai une secrétaire bilingue naturellement c'est un avantage sérieux pour moi, même si j'ai seulement une lettre à envoyer. Et je vois que ce Comité des crédits généraux, puisque nous devons encourager le bilinguisme, devrait l'encourager aussi.

C'est simplement un petit secteur de la question du bilinguisme; ce n'est peut-être pas tellement petit pour les gens qui sont ici, mais je suis frappé par la question parce que je trouve que c'est un secteur où nous devrions effectivement encourager les secrétaires qui parlent seulement anglais à parler français aussi, et celles qui parlent seulement français à parler aussi l'anglais, de sorte que j'espère que le Comité va encourager ce genre de mesure.

Le président: Monsieur Cullen, si vous voulez passer à un autre sujet, tâchons de terminer celui-ci et puis nous reviendrons à un autre sujet.

M. Cullen: Je m'excuse.

Le président: Je reviendrai à vous tantôt.

M. Cullen: Oui, ça va.

Le président: M. Dumont?

Mr. Dumont: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. My question will be for Mr. DeSalaberry. Of course I agree when you say that increases of 6 per cent were granted. This means that you can recognize the competence of our secretaries. But I really would like to situate the problem. The question of Mr. Ricard, a while ago, was about bilingual employees. Everyone received this 6 per cent. But the purpose of the Act that was passed was to recognize bilingual employees, i.e. recognize the fact that a person speaks both languages, writes in both languages, answers in English and French. It was not the spirit of the Act to exempt the employees of the House of Commons, of the internal management or of the Senate. If there was an injustice done to the

[*Text*]

S'il y a eu injustice pour des secrétaires, je crois que ce Comité devrait faire une recommandation à la Chambre des communes afin d'éviter que cette erreur se continue.

Monsieur de Salaberry, est-ce que les secrétaires françaises peuvent suivre des cours d'anglais et les secrétaires anglaises, des cours de français?

M. de Salaberry: Monsieur Dumont, elles le peuvent certainement avec la permission de leur employeur, c'est-à-dire le député. Mais, à cause des nombreuses demandes que la Commission de la fonction publique a reçues, celle-ci a dû limiter, ce n'est pas une décision de la Chambre, a dû limiter les cours de langue aux classes d'administrateurs et de professionnels. Jusqu'à maintenant, les autres employés ne sont pas acceptés aux cours de langue.

M. Dumont: On ne doit pas alors considérer les secrétaires sous l'étiquette professionnelle. Ma deuxième question serait...

Le président: Sous l'étiquette professionnelle?

M. Dumont: Je considère justement qu'une secrétaire, qui a reçu un certain doctorat et qui vient travailler ici parce qu'elle aime le Parlement canadien, doit être gratifiée d'une étiquette professionnelle.

Le président: Je voulais vous le faire dire.

M. Dumont: Pouvez-vous me donner le nombre de secrétaires canadiennes-françaises qui suivent des cours d'anglais et le nombre de secrétaires anglaises qui suivent des cours de français?

M. de Salaberry: Vu ma dernière réponse, monsieur Dumont...

M. Dumont: Pardon, qui ont fait la demande?

M. de Salaberry: Nous avons eu dans le passé plusieurs demandes; je n'ai pas le nombre. On ne pouvait rien y faire.

M. Dumont: Avez-vous plus de demandes de secrétaires de langue anglaise qui veulent apprendre le français que de Canadiennes-françaises qui veulent apprendre l'anglais?

M. de Salaberry: Beaucoup plus, oui.

M. Dumont: Cela voudrait dire alors qu'il y a beaucoup de Canadiennes-françaises qui sont bilingues!

Le président: A l'ordre!

[*Interpretation*]

secretaries, I think that the Committee should make a recommendation to the House of Commons in order to avoid that this error continues.

Mr. DeSalaberry, are secretaries entitled to take courses in English for those who speak French and are those who speak English entitled to take courses in French?

Mr. DeSalaberry: Mr. Dumont, they certainly are entitled with the permission of their employer who after all is their member. I must tell you that because of the various requests that the Public Service Commission has received, it had to limit the language courses (this is not a House decision) to the categories of employees who are at the administrative level and the professional level. So until now the other employees cannot take language courses.

Mr. Dumont: So secretaries are not professionals? My second question.

The Chairman: You cannot label them professionals you mean.

Mr. Dumont: I mean if a secretary has a doctor's degree but comes as a secretary because she like the Parliament of Canada must be granted the professional label.

The Chairman: I wanted you to say it.

Mr. Dumont: Can you give me the number of French-Canadian secretaries who take courses in English and those English-speaking secretaries who take courses in French?

Mr. DeSalaberry: Mr. Dumont, according to my last answer...

Mr. Dumont: Excuse me, who have requested?

Mr. DeSalaberry: We receive many requests, I do not know what is the exact figure but we have had many. There was nothing we could do.

Mr. Dumont: Do you have more requests from English-speaking secretaries who want to learn French than from French-Canadians ones who want to learn English?

Mr. DeSalaberry: Many more, yes.

Mr. Dumont: This would mean then that there are many more French-Canadians who are bilingual!

The Chairman: Order please.

[*Texte*]

M. de Salaberry: Monsieur le président, je n'ai pas répondu à une question de M. Ricard qui me demandait les conditions sous lesquelles on payait la prime à la Fonction publique. Il y a deux conditions: qu'on établisse par test si la personne a les qualités voulues dans les deux langues; qu'au moins 10 p. 100 du travail soit fait dans la seconde langue.

Le président: Monsieur de Salaberry, est-ce que votre deuxième critère s'appliquerait dans un comté où il y aurait un pourcentage d'environ 25 p. 100 de gens de langue anglaise et 75 p. 100 de langue française?

M. de Salaberry: Il semblerait que le nombre d'appels téléphoniques et le nombre de lettres devraient . . .

Le président: Est-ce que ce serait un critère pour l'association du comté?

M. de Salaberry: Je serais tout à fait prêt à recommander au greffier que ce soit un critère. Car, si 25 p. 100 de la population constitue la minorité, certainement au moins 10 p. 100 du travail se fait dans la seconde langue.

Le président: Monsieur Dumont, avez-vous terminé? Question complémentaire, monsieur Ricard?

M. Ricard: La réponse de M. de Salaberry m'amène à une autre question. Est-ce la Fonction publique qui détermine le 10 p. 100?

M. de Salaberry: A la Fonction publique, oui.

M. Ricard: Plusieurs facteurs doivent entrer en ligne de compte pour déterminer ce 10 p. 100. Je pense que si vous établissez ce 10 p. 100 simplement sur la population de l'autre langue, qui réside dans le comté d'un certain député, cela ne donnera certainement pas une juste réponse. Ici, nous évoluons dans un domaine où, par exemple, une secrétaire française est obligée de se servir de l'autre langue beaucoup plus que la Fonction publique peut le déterminer.

M. de Salaberry: Absolument.

M. Ricard: Quand vous dites que c'est 10 p. 100 du travail à faire, je doute fort que l'on tienne compte de ce facteur auquel la secrétaire doit faire face quotidiennement. Je pense qu'il ne devrait pas y avoir une récompense en pourcentage au bilinguisme, puisque cela voudrait dire que, si une personne travaille moins, il faudrait nécessairement qu'il y ait une révision à tous les ans pour déter-

[*Interprétation*]

Mr. DeSalaberry: Mr. Chairman, if you do not mind I did not answer one question put by Mr. Ricard who was asking me what were the conditions under which the premium was paid in the Public Service. There are two conditions: that it is established by test that the person has the necessary qualifications in both languages; that at least 10 per cent of the work is done in the second language.

The Chairman: Mr. deSalaberry, would your second criterion apply in a riding where you have about 25 per cent of English-speaking people and 75 per cent of French-speaking people?

Mr. deSalaberry: It seems to me that this would depend on the amount of telephone calls you get and the amount of letters . . .

The Chairman: Would this be a criterion for the Riding Association?

Mr. deSalaberry: I would be quite ready to recommend to the clerk that it be a criterion. Because if 25 per cent of the population constitutes a minority, certainly at least 10 per cent of the work could be done in the second language.

The Chairman: Have you finished, Mr. Dumont? A supplementary question, Mr. Ricard?

Mr. Ricard: Mr. deSalaberry's answer leads to another question. Does the Public Service determine whether there is a 10 per cent or not.

Mr. deSalaberry: That is right, in the Public Service.

Mr. Ricard: Many factors must be taken into consideration to establish this percentage of 10 per cent. I think that if you establish it simply according to the amount of people in the riding of a member who speak the other language, you certainly will not get an exact figure. Here we are working in a field where—let us take a French secretary for instance, who has to use the other language much more than the Public Service can establish.

Mr. deSalaberry: Absolutely.

Mr. Ricard: When you say that 10 per cent of the work to be done, I doubt whether you really take into account the fact that the secretary has to use the second language very often daily. I wonder if there should not be a premium in percentage for bilingualism because it would mean that if a person works less, necessarily you would have to make a review every year to establish what is the

[*Text*]

miner quelle est la fraction. Du moment qu'une personne est bilingue, elle devrait automatiquement mériter la prime de 7 p. 100.

M. de Salaberry: Ce sont des critères qui ont été établis simplement pour la Fonction publique, non pas pour la Chambre des communes.

Le président: Monsieur Clermont?

M. Dumont: Monsieur le président, j'ai une dernière question.

Le président: Excusez, monsieur Dumont. Ce sera votre dernière question.

M. Dumont: Monsieur de Salaberry, d'après ce que vous nous avez expliqué, est-ce qu'il y a une possibilité physique prochaine d'organiser ces cours pour les secrétaires, afin que la bonne entente existe entre les secrétaires de langue anglaise et les secrétaires de langue française au parlement?

M. de Salaberry: Oui, ce serait tout à fait désirable, monsieur Dumont. Les commissaires nous ont récemment prévu un budget pour l'enseignement des langues, non seulement aux députés, mais aussi aux employés. Il y a une foule de gens ici qui sont inquiets aujourd'hui, parce qu'ils ou elles n'ont pas la possibilité d'apprendre une seconde langue.

M. Ricard: Merci.

Le président: Monsieur Clermont.

M. Clermont: Monsieur le président, j'aimerais d'abord parler de cette prime de 7 p. 100 pour le bilinguisme.

Le président: A l'heure actuelle, si vous voulez, nous allons finir ce sujet-là, pour ensuite reprendre...

M. Clermont: Merci, monsieur le président. J'aimerais à corriger une déclaration de nos deux témoins, voulant que des observations n'aient été faites à la Chambre des communes que la semaine dernière. Pour être juste je dois dire que c'est avant la semaine dernière que des représentations ont été faites par plusieurs députés, de différentes manières au sujet de la prime de 7 p. 100. Je crois qu'il est juste et raisonnable que cette correction soit apportée.

Le président: Sauf erreur, monsieur Clermont, le sujet a été discuté également dans les caucus des différents partis.

M. Clermont: Ça fait plus longtemps que la semaine dernière que la question du 7 p. 100 a été portée à l'attention des responsables du

[*Interpretation*]

proportion. As long as a person is bilingual she should automatically get the 7 per cent premium.

Mr. deSalaberry: These are the criteria which were established for the Public Service only, not for the House of Commons.

The Chairman: Mr. Clermont?

Mr. Dumont: Mr. Chairman, I have a last question.

The Chairman: Excuse me, Mr. Dumont, this will be your last question.

Mr. Dumont: Mr. de Salaberry, according to your explanations, would there be a near physical possibility of organizing courses for the secretaries in order to promote good relations between French-speaking and English-speaking secretaries in the House of Commons.

Mr. de Salaberry: Yes, that would be of course desirable, Mr. Dumont. The Commissioners have recently made provisions for a budget providing for the teaching of languages to Members and to employees. There are many people who are worried today because they do not have a chance of learning a second language.

Mr. Ricard: Thank you.

The Chairman: Mr. Clermont.

Mr. Clermont: Mr. Chairman, first, I would like to talk about this 7 per cent premium for bilingualism.

The Chairman: First of all, we will finish this subject, then we will take the other one.

Mr. Clermont: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to correct a statement made by the two witnesses to the effect that observations were made last week only, in the House of Commons. I must say in all fairness that it was before last week that various Members made various representations with respect to the 7 per cent. I think it is just and reasonable to make this correction.

The Chairman: Unless I am mistaken, Mr. Clermont, I think this was also discussed in the caucuses of the various parties.

Mr. Clermont: This question about the 7 per cent was brought to the attention of those who are in charge of personnel in the House

[*Texte*]

personnel à la Chambre des communes bien avant la semaine dernière, monsieur le président.

Deuxièmement, j'abonde dans le sens du député de Saint-Hyacinthe-Bagot, M. Ricard. Je pense aussi que le critère d'allocation de ce 7 p. 100 devrait être comme ceci: si une personne est bilingue, elle a droit à ce 7 p. 100 parce que ce n'est pas sa faute à elle si elle travaille pour un député de langue anglaise, qui lui n'a pas de correspondance française. Alors je crois que ce serait punir cette personne. Le critère devrait être si la personne se présentant pour un emploi possède les deux langues, elle a droit à la prime de 7 p. 100.

Le président: Monsieur Cafik.

Mr. Cafik: Yes, Mr. Chairman, I have two or three questions and the first one I would like to direct to Mr. Fraser, as a matter of clarification.

Mr. Fraser, you had indicated that the Speaker was going to have a meeting with the Commissioners of Internal Economy and I would like to ask this specific question, that if the Commissioners of Internal Economy decide that a member's secretary should get this premium for being bilingual, would that be the end of the argument? In other words, would the Speaker then pass this and it would become a rule, or would this have to go a step further and be approved by Parliament, or what would happen?

Mr. Fraser: It would have to be approved by Parliament, sir, to this extent, that any additional expenditures that would be required would probably have to be raised by way of a supplementary estimate.

Mr. Cafik: But the principle that would be established would be entirely up to the Speaker of the House of Commons: is that correct?

Mr. Fraser: Yes. I would not want to interpret what he would do, but I would think it would be most unlikely that if the Commissioners were, by a majority of those present at the meeting, to recommend a course of action that he would not go along with that course of action.

Mr. Cafik: When is approaching the Commissioners of Internal Economy, is it to find out if they think it is advisable to spend this extra money? Is it an approach to get permission, or is it an approach to find out their view?

Mr. Fraser: It is both, sir.

[*Interprétation*]

of Commons, quite some time before last week, Mr. Chairman.

Secondly, I fully agree with the Member for Saint-Hyacinthe-Bagot, Mr. Ricard. I also think that the criterion for allocating the 7 per cent should be as follows: If someone is bilingual, that person is entitled to the 7 per cent because it is not his fault if he is working for an English-speaking M.P. who has no letters to write in French. Otherwise, I think it would be punishing that person. The criterion would be that if a person is bilingual when applying for a job, he is entitled to the 7 per cent premium.

The Chairman: Mr. Cafik.

M. Cafik: Oui, monsieur le président, j'ai deux ou trois questions. La première s'adresserait à M. Fraser. C'est simplement une explication que je voudrais avoir.

Monsieur Fraser, vous avez dit que l'Orateur convoquerait une réunion avec les commissaires de la régie interne. Je voudrais poser une question très spécifique. Si les membres de la régie interne décidaient que la secrétaire d'un député devrait avoir cette prime de bilinguisme, est-ce que ce serait la fin des discussions? Autrement dit, est-ce que l'Orateur accepterait cette décision et ça deviendrait une règle? Est-ce qu'il faudrait aller encore plus loin et la faire adopter par le Parlement?

M. Fraser: Il faudrait que le Parlement l'approuve en ce sens qu'il y aurait des dépenses supplémentaires à encourir. Il faudrait l'approuver sous forme de crédits supplémentaires.

M. Cafik: Oui, mais le principe qui serait établi sera entièrement à la discrétion de l'Orateur de la Chambre des communes, n'est-ce pas?

M. Fraser: Oui. Naturellement je ne saurais dire ce qu'il fera mais il me semble très improbable que si les membres de la régie interne recommandaient ensemble une mesure à prendre, qu'il ne l'accepte pas.

M. Cafik: Lorsqu'il parlera aux membres de la régie interne, est-ce que ce sera pour leur demander s'ils trouvent souhaitable de dépenser ces fonds supplémentaires? Est-ce qu'il s'agit d'obtenir leur approbation ou est-ce qu'il veut connaître leur opinion tout simplement?

M. Fraser: Les deux.

[*Text*]

Mr. Cafik: It would appear, then, that those of us who are interested in this matter, and I represent a completely English-speaking riding and have as much interest in seeing that this premium is paid as members of French-speaking ridings or bilingual ridings, and I think it is important that the Speaker and the Commissioners realize that unilingual ridings are equally concerned with this matter. I would hope that he would understand that from these hearings.

My second question is a basic one that we have to ask ourselves as federal Members of Parliament regardless of the type of riding

• 1555

that we may represent in terms of its linguistic makeup do citizens of Canada have the right to approach federal Members of Parliament in the language of their choice? In my riding I have very few French people, probably no more than 100, and I have had two or three letters sent to me in French and I rather feel that it would be an insult to them, and that I would be doing something improper, if I did not communicate with them in French by writing and by telephone. The only medium I have for doing this now is to knock on the door of some other secretary and solicit her support in achieving this.

I think the real question is that we have an obligation to deal with our constituents in either of Canada's two official languages, and I think the question of amount one language or the other is used to determine the 7 per cent is not really a pertinent question at all.

I think that all of us should have the right and the facility to be able to deal in both languages with our people and if it is based on the percentage of French in an English riding or English in French riding it creates a very difficult problem because I am sure many French girls here, who represent all French ridings, probably deal in English with many Members of Parliament, and internally they deal in the other language. The same is true the other way around. I were trying to get something from a department and I had a French secretary, she could deal with that department in the language of the person she was talking to. I think that is extremely important and, therefore, I would recommend to this Committee that the 7 per cent premium be paid on the basis of ability rather than need.

The Chairman: Mr. Thomson.

[*Interpretation*]

M. Cafik: Il me semble que pour ceux d'entre nous qui sont intéressés à la question, même si je représente une circonscription complètement anglaise je suis tout aussi intéressé à ce que cette prime soit payée que les députés qui représentent des circonscriptions de langue française ou bilingues, je crois qu'il est important que l'Orateur et les membres de la régie interne réalisent que les circonscriptions unilingues s'intéressent elles aussi à cette question. J'espère qu'ils s'en rendront compte.

Ma deuxième question, nous devons nous la poser en tant que députés et quel que soit le genre de comté que nous représentons sur le plan linguistique. Est-ce que les citoyens du Canada ont le droit de s'adresser aux députés fédéraux dans la langue qui leur plaît? Il n'y a que quelques personnes de langue française dans ma circonscription, une centaine. J'ai reçu quelques lettres en français et je trouve que ce serait les insulter et que ce serait inapproprié si je ne leur répondais pas en français, qu'il s'agisse d'une lettre ou d'un appel téléphonique. Actuellement tout ce que je puis faire c'est d'aller frapper à la porte d'une autre secrétaire et de lui demander de me dépanner.

Je crois que nous devons communiquer avec nos commettants dans l'une ou l'autre des langues officielles du pays et je crois que la proportion dans laquelle une langue est utilisée pour déterminer ce 7 p.100 ne devrait pas être prise en considération.

Je pense que nous devrions tous avoir à notre disposition les moyens de traiter dans une langue ou dans l'autre avec nos électeurs. S'il faut établir dans quelle proportion le français est utilisé dans une circonscription anglaise ou vice versa, je crois que nous créons un grave problème car je suis convaincu que beaucoup de jeunes filles de langue française, qui représentent des circonscriptions de langue française, traitent probablement en anglais avec beaucoup de députés, et dans d'autres circonstances. L'inverse est également vrai. Si je tente d'obtenir quelque détail d'un ministère et que ma secrétaire est de langue française, elle pourra traiter avec ce ministère dans la langue de la personne à qui elle doit s'adresser. Je crois que c'est très important. C'est pourquoi je recommande que la prime de 7 p.100 soit versée selon les capacités de chacune et non selon les besoins.

The Chairman: Mr. Thomson.

[*Texte*]

Mr. McCutcheon: A supplementary please at this juncture.

The Chairman: All right, Mr. McCutcheon.

Mr. McCutcheon: I would like to direct it to Mr. Fraser. Could you give us an estimate of the cost?

Mr. de Salaberry: This is a very rough estimate that I made some time ago. In 1967, sir, I made an estimate and it is worth what it is worth, of $120,000 per year.

The Chairman: Mr. Thomson.

Mr. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Mr. Chairman, Mr. Cafik made several of the points which I would like to have made but I would like to repeat one or two of them for emphasis.

I have a bilingual secretary. I can speak to her in English. She can deal in either the English or French language when she contacts people for me anywhere in the House of Commons or in the government bureau, and I feel that a secretary who is qualified to deal in both languages is well worth the differential. Since it is an added skill, I would favour paying these people the additional premium.

I would like to give another illustration of why I might, as an English-speaking person, have need of this. For example, Mr. Dumont was with us on the agriculture tour in western Canada and he repeatedly raised an issue about feed grains and how that affects Quebec and I am still not quite clear as to the purpose and intent of his question. Now, my intent is to write a letter in French asking him to explain in detail what he means. I need someone to write in French and I need someone to interpret. Sometimes in the two languages, my French is fragmentary, his English is fragmentary and the intent is lost. I think that we have some real need here for things of this nature.

If I did not have a bilingual secretary and wanted one when would be the earliest you could arrange for one to be sent to my office?

• 1600

Mr. de Salaberry: At the moment I would have to rob a French-speaking member.

Mr. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): I mean to get a bilingual secretary now. I want a bilingual one.

Mr. deSalaberry: Oh, a replacement.

Mr. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): A replacement.

Mr. deSalaberry: They are extremely difficult to recruit—extremely difficult. Now you

[*Interprétation*]

M. McCutcheon: Une question supplémentaire, s'il vous plaît.

Le président: Très bien.

M. McCutcheon: Je voudrais m'adresser à M. Fraser. Pourriez-vous nous donner une idée du coût?

M. de Salaberry: Je vous donnerai un chiffre approximatif, qui remonte à quelque temps déjà. En 1967, le chiffre auquel j'en étais arrivé, était de $120,000 par année.

Le président: M. Thomson.

M. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Monsieur Cafik a soulevé plusieurs des points auxquels je songeais mais j'aimerais insister sur un ou deux, en les répétant.

J'ai une secrétaire bilingue. Je peux lui parler en anglais. Elle peut travailler en français ou en anglais, lorsqu'elle doit communiquer avec des gens pour moi, soit à la Chambre ou à l'extérieur. Je pense qu'une secrétaire qui connaît les deux langues mérite ce salaire supplémentaire. Puisqu'il s'agit d'un talent additionnel, je suis d'accord pour que ces personnes touchent la prime.

J'aimerais vous donner un autre exemple pour vous démontrer pourquoi j'ai besoin d'une secrétaire bilingue. M. Dumont était avec les membres du Comité de l'agriculture dans l'Ouest. A plusieurs reprises, il a soulevé le problème des grains de provende et l'effet de ce problème sur le Québec. Je ne comprends pas très bien encore le but de ses questions. Je voudrais donc lui écrire une lettre en français pour lui demander de m'expliquer en détail ce qu'il voulait dire. Alors j'ai besoin de quelqu'un pour écrire la lettre en français et pour me traduire la réponse. Mon français n'est pas très bon, son anglais non plus, alors on peut perdre beaucoup. Nous avons donc besoin de secrétaires bilingues.

Si je n'avais pas de secrétaire bilingue et si j'en voulais une quand pourrais-je en avoir une?

M. de Salaberry: Pour l'instant, je devrais la voler à un député de langue française.

M. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Non, je dis bien que je veux une secrétaire bilingue dès maintenant. J'en veux une bilingue.

M. de Salaberry: Pour remplacer l'actuelle.

M. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Oui.

M. de Salaberry: Et bien, c'est extrêmement difficile d'en recruter. Il y a évidem-

[*Text*]

do have the Bureau for Translations which is available to translate correspondence. This takes some time because they are overloaded. But there is that avenue as well.

Mr. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): I have one final comment, Mr. Chairman. If my secretary were to get mad at me and quit, I would be sitting on the doorstep there the next morning asking for help.

The Chairman: It might happen, you never can tell.

Mr. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Yes.

The Chairman: Mr. Mather?

Mr. Mather: Mr. Chairman, it seems to me that everybody here that I have heard so far is in agreement that the secretaries should get the 7 per cent premium regardless of the French or English-speaking numbers in the member's constituency, which is something I agree with.

I have other questions on another subject and I do not know if I should raise them now.

The Chairman: On the same subject?

Mr. Mather: No.

The Chairman: Will you wait until later then?

Mr. Mather: I will.

The Chairman: We will try to complete this subject and then we will carry on.

Mr. Penner, you are next.

Mr. Penner: Just briefly, Mr. Chairman, I think those members of Parliament who do have bilingual secretaries feel that they are among the fortunate ones. We have a strong feeling that it makes our work in the office that much more efficient and I would hope that the message is carried back from this Committee that there is a strong feeling that this differential should be paid.

One thing that concerns some of us, and it has already been alluded to, is the criteria. I would suspect that the majority of those secretaries who are bilingual have in fact French as their working language. However, they may be working for an English-speaking member who may not in fact require them to do 10 per cent of their work in French, nor his correspondence or the number of his constituents up to 10 per cent. Still, their working language is French—their language used on the Hill—and they are required to work for the member in English. It seems to me

[*Interpretation*]

ment le Bureau des traductions pour traduire votre correspondance. C'est parfois long, car ils ont déjà beaucoup de travail, mais c'est une possibilité qui existe également.

M. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Une dernière remarque, monsieur le président. Si ma secrétaire se fâchait contre moi et démissionnait, je serais assis sur le pas de la porte, le lendemain matin pour en demander une autre.

Le président: C'est possible, on ne sait jamais.

M. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Oui.

Le président: Monsieur Mather?

M. Mather: Monsieur le président, je pense que tout le monde ici est d'accord pour accorder la prime de 7 p. 100 aux secrétaires quel que soit le nombre de personnes de langue française ou de langue anglaise dans la circonscription du député, et je suis de cet avis également. J'ai une autre question à poser sur un autre sujet, et je me demande si je pourrais la poser dès maintenant.

Le président: Sur le même sujet?

M. Mather: Non.

Le président: Vous attendrez à plus tard, alors?

M. Mather: D'accord.

Le président: Nous essaierons d'en finir avec ce que nous discutons avant de passer à autre chose.

Monsieur Penner?

M. Penner: Monsieur le président, je pense que les députés qui ont des secrétaires bilingues se considèrent chanceux. Nous sommes convaincus que cela rend notre travail beaucoup plus efficace. J'espère qu'on transmettra le message que nous sommes convaincu qu'il faudrait leur accorder un supplément.

Nous sommes également préoccupés, et nous en avons déjà parlé, des critères sur lesquels on se basera. Je pense que la langue de travail de la plupart des secrétaires bilingues est en fait le français. Elles travaillent peut-être pour un député de langue anglaise qui ne leur demande pas de faire 10 p. 100 de leur travail en français, et que le volume de sa correspondance et le nombre de personnes de langue française dans sa circonscription n'atteint pas 10 p. 100. Leur langue de travail est néanmoins le français, la langue dont elles se servent sur la colline, et elles doivent tra-

[*Texte*]

that here is where the justification for the differential comes in and that that should be taken into account rather than some cold figures based on constituency or correspondence or anything similar to that. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

The Chairman: Mr. O'Connell?

Mr. O'Connell: Mr. Chairman, I am not a permanent member of your Committee but I have come out of interest for the principle involved here. I will be very brief.

I agree with Mr. Penner's last remark. That is one of the points I wanted to make too. I think it is a grave omission not to apply the bilingualism factor to the salaries of secretaries to members. It is a grave omission because I think if there is anyone in the government area that should be approachable in either language, it is surely the members of Parliament. I think they ought to be encouraged to have bilingual secretaries and their secretaries, as members of the Public Service, ought to be encouraged and rewarded financially for using both languages whenever the occasion is appropriate.

I myself am fortunate in having a bilingual secretary. I would think that she uses the French language on the telephone at least one-half the time when talking to personnel in other offices throughout the government—and she does a good deal of that at my request. She is using whatever language the other person is most familiar with.

As Mr. Penner points out, I am partially bilingual, having had the first degree course at the Collège militaire royal de Saint-Jean. Although we speak English mainly in the office, we hope to change that a little. I would hope that your Committee would recommend very strongly that the bilingualism factor be added along the general lines as in the Public Service but not identical because the work of a member's secretary is not compartmentalized as it might be in the Public Service. They deal with many matters across a broad spectrum, not only with constituency affairs but with other departments, and I think the criteria ought to take into account the different kind of work which they do in a member's office. I would be very strongly in support of this on principle.

The Chairman: I have two more speakers on the same subject: Mr. Marceau and Mr. Prud'homme.

M. Marceau: Monsieur le président, je ne suis pas non plus membre de ce Comité permanent, mais je voudrais quand même exprimer mon opinion, d'autant plus que ce n'est

[*Interprétation*]

vailler en anglais bien souvent pour le député. Il me semble que c'est ainsi que l'on peut justifier la prime et qu'on devrait en tenir compte, au lieu de calculer uniquement à partir de chiffres fondés sur la correspondance ou la circonscription, en quelque chose du genre. Merci, monsieur le président.

Le président: Monsieur O'Connell?

M. O'Connell: Je ne suis pas un membre permanent du Comité, mais je suis venu parce que la question m'intéresse. Je serai bref.

Je suis d'accord avec la dernière remarque de M. Penner. C'est ce que je voulais dire également. Je pense que c'est une omission grave de ne pas appliquer la prime au bilinguisme au salaire des secrétaires de députés. C'est un grave oubli, car s'il y a des gens au gouvernement à qui on devrait pouvoir s'adresser dans une ou l'autre langue, ce sont bien les députés. Il faut donc les encourager à avoir des secrétaires bilingues et leurs secrétaires, à titre de membres de la Fonction publique, devraient être encouragées et récompensées financièrement lorsqu'elles peuvent se servir des deux langues au besoin.

Pour ma part, j'ai la chance d'avoir une secrétaire bilingue et je pense qu'elle parle français au téléphone au moins la moitié du temps lorsqu'elle parle au personnel des autres bureaux du gouvernement, et elle doit le faire souvent lorsque je le lui demande. Elle parle soit le français ou l'anglais selon la personne en communication.

Comme M. Penner l'a dit, je suis partiellement bilingue, puisque j'ai suivi le cours du premier degré au Collège militaire de Saint-Jean. Bien que nous parlions surtout l'anglais au bureau, j'espère changer cette situation un peu. J'espère que le Comité recommandera fortement que le facteur du bilinguisme soit ajouté selon les lignes générales de la fonction publique mais pas de façon absolument identique, car le travail d'un député est différent de celui qui se fait à la fonction publique. Elles doivent travailler à bon nombre de questions, non seulement ce qui regarde la circonscription du député, mais aussi avec les autres ministères, et le critère a considérer ici est la variété de travail qui se fait dans le bureau d'un député. Je pense que je serais très favorable à cette demande, en principe.

Le président: Il y a deux autres orateurs, M. Marceau et M. Prud'homme.

Mr. Marceau: I am not a member of this Standing Committee, but I would nonetheless like to express my opinion, and all the more so, as it is not a secret to anyone that my

[*Text*]

un secret pour personne que ma secrétaire est peut-être à l'origine de ce regain d'activité dans ce domaine que je considère comme très important. Et je crois qu'elle mérite d'être félicitée pour avoir soulevé cette question, mais je ne voudrais pas que ceci devienne une querelle partisane. Je pense qu'il y a un principe beaucoup plus important à sauvegarder, monsieur le président, c'est le bilinguisme. Et non pas le bilinguisme dans les livres et dans les décrets de loi, mais en pratique. Et je pense qu'une secrétaire bilingue est un moyen bien efficace d'étendre ce bilinguisme un peu partout. Personnellement, il m'arrive d'avoir certaines difficultés en anglais et ma secrétaire est pour moi et pour quelques autres, je présume, d'un grand secours pour m'aider à devenir davantage bilingue.

De plus, lorsqu'elle communique avec les ministères, la plupart du temps elle doit le faire en anglais; c'est donc pour elle une nécessité. Qu'on l'oblige à faire 10 p. 100 de sa correspondance en anglais pour qu'elle ait droit à ce 7 p. 100 me semble injuste. Ceci me semble inacceptable et je pense que nous sommes d'accord. Je me joins à mes confrères pour dire qu'il est temps que nous fassions du bilinguisme, non pas une théorie, mais une pratique. Et la meilleure façon de le faire est d'accepter de verser cette prime de 7 p. 100 à nos secrétaires bilingues, ce qui les encouragera d'avantage à être bilingues et à le demeurer.

Le président: M. Prud'homme.

Mr. Prud'homme: My first words would be in the other language—that I wholeheartedly agree and support what my colleagues Mr. Marceau, Mr. O'Connell, Mr. Penner and all the others before me have said. I am not a member of the Committee either but I am very much interested in this question.

It is not a question of partisanship—does it belong to the Creditiste, the Liberal or the Conservative? I think it is way above that and that we should solve this question here in the House of Commons.

I have a perfectly bilingual secretary and a perfect bilingual constituency—50 per cent French-speaking and 50 per cent English-speaking—but this is not the case for most of my colleagues. Even though a secretary might have a complete English-speaking or a complete French-speaking district and even though her correspondence or the member's correspondence might be strictly in English or might be strictly in French—we know how it works here in the House of Commons—we know that most of the time, if we want any

[*Interpretation*]

secretary is one of those who has worked a lot to bring about a renewed interest in that field which I consider to be important and she deserves our congratulations to have brought up that question. But I would not want this to become a partisan quarrel. I think that there is a far more important principle that has to be safeguarded, Mr. Chairman and that is bilingualism. And not only bilingualism in books and in the Statutes, but in practice. And I think that a bilingual secretary is a very efficient means of spreading bilingualism a bit everywhere.

Once in a while, I find English difficult myself, and my secretary is a precious help in assisting me to become more bilingual.

Furthermore, when she deals with other Departments, most of the time she has to speak English. Therefore, it is a necessity for her. I find it unfair to oblige her to do 10 per cent of her correspondence in English so that she might be entitled to the 7 per cent premium. To my mind this is unacceptable, and I think we are agreed on this. I go along with my colleagues in saying that it is time that we made of bilingualism a practice, rather than a theory. And the best way to do that would be to agree to pay that 7 per cent premium to our bilingual secretaries, which further encourage them to be and remain bilingual.

The Chairman: Mr. Prud'homme.

M. Prud'homme: Je parlerai d'abord dans l'autre langue. Je suis tout à fait d'accord et j'appuie ce que mes collègues, MM. Marceau, O'Connell, et Penner ont dit. Je ne suis pas membre du Comité non plus, mais je m'intéresse beaucoup à la question.

Ce n'est pas une question de partisanerie, le fait d'appartenir au parti libéral, conservateur ou créditiste. Je pense que cette question est bien au-dessus de cette lutte de clochers et que nous pourrions la régler ici à la Chambre.

J'ai une secrétaire parfaitement bilingue et une circonscription tout à fait bilingue, soit à moitié de langue française et à moitié de langue anglaise. Mais ce n'est pas le cas de la plupart de mes collègues. Même si une secrétaire travaille pour un député dont la circonscription est tout à fait de langue française ou de langue anglaise et même si la correspondance est faite entièrement en français ou en anglais, nous savons comment cela se passe ici à la Chambre, que dans la plupart des cas, si nous voulons des renseignements, obtenir

[*Texte*]

kind of information, any kind of services or we have to communicate with any department of the House of Commons, most of our secretaries—I am speaking here mainly for the French-speaking secretaries, or even for the English-speaking secretaries, but particularly for the French-speaking secretaries—have to communicate in English.

In most international organizations—it is good for all of us to have travelled a little more outside Canada—they have to use two languages and they receive a bonus for language, which is part of their salary. I have a brother in France and because he had to use English and was able to do so he was better paid than someone who could only speak and work in French.

Pour ces raisons, je pense que la Commission de la régie de la Chambre des communes doit se pencher le plus rapidement possible sur cette question. Elle a été discutée très longuement, depuis quelques années. Cela fait 5 ans que je suis à la Chambre des communes et cela fait au moins 4 ans que j'en entends parler. Il est maintenant temps d'agir, et sans partisanerie. Je comprends que les «supporteurs» sont nombreux dans cette salle mais indépendamment du fait que ces personnes soient ici, je pense que c'est une question de justice. Et en même temps, cette mesure encouragera peut-être une meilleure communication entre les secrétaires unilingues de langue française et les secrétaires unilingues de langue anglaise, à communiquer entre elles, à mieux fraterniser, à mieux se connaître et en même temps, à rendre de meilleurs services à la population que nous représentons ici. Pour ces raisons, et sans autre discussion de ma part, je pense que nous nous devons de nous pencher immédiatement sur ce problème et en venir à une décision le plus rapidement possible. Je comprends que cela ne se fera pas demain, mais nous devons en venir à une conclusion le plus rapidement possible. Il n'est pas nécessaire d'aller fouiller dans la documentation des députés pour savoir, s'ils ont dans leur filière 8 p. 100 ou 15 p. 100 de lettres de langue anglaise ou de langue française pour leur accorder la prime. Ou bien les secrétaires sont bilingues, ou bien elles ne le sont pas. Si elles ne le sont pas, je ne leur en veux pas, car c'est une question de vieille tradition. Mais la prime serait peut-être un stimulant à le devenir, car il n'y a rien comme un catalyseur financier pour encourager les gens à devenir bilingues au Canada.

Alors pour ces raisons, je donne mon appui total et entier et je m'excuse d'avoir à m'absenter.

[*Interprétation*]

des services, ou communiquer avec d'autres services de la Chambre, la plupart de nos secrétaires, et je parle surtout des secrétaires de langue française, et des autres aussi, mais surtout pour celles de langue française, elles doivent traiter en anglais.

Dans la plupart des organisations internationales, et tous ceux qui ont voyagé à l'étranger le savent, lorsqu'elles doivent se servir de deux langues, c'est ajouté à leur salaire. Mon frère est en France, et comme il doit travailler en anglais, il est mieux payé qu'une personne qui ne parle et qui ne travaille que dans une seule langue, le français.

So, for these reasons I think that the Board of Internal Economy of the House should study this question as soon as possible. It has been discussed at great length for a number of years. I have been five years in the House, I have heard about it for the last four years. It is now time to act, without partisanship. I know that we have a lot of "supporters" here today, but independently from that, I think it is a question of justice. And at the same time this measure might encourage better communication between unilingual French-speaking and unilingual English-speaking secretaries. They will learn to know each other better and they will be able to render better services to the population which we represent here. For these reasons, and without further discussion on my part, I think it is our duty to study this question immediately and to reach a decision as quickly as possible. I know that this will not happen overnight, but we must reach a conclusion as quickly as possible. It is not necessary to check through the MP's files to find out whether 8 or 15 per cent of their letters are in French or in English to grant them this premium. The secretaries are either bilingual or they are not. If they are not bilingual, I can't hold it against them, it has been that way for a long time. But the premium might be an incentive to become bilingual, because there is nothing like a financial catalyser to encourage people to become bilingual in Canada.

So for these reasons, I wholeheartedly approve this, and I apologize because I have to leave.

[*Text*]

M. Clermont: Une question supplémentaire, monsieur le président. M. Prud'homme a parlé dans les deux langues, il a parlé pour deux députés.

• 1610

Le président: Alors, M. Marceau aurait également une question supplémentaire, en plus, d'autres témoins, représentant différents ministères, sont arrivés. Allez-y, monsieur Clermont.

M. Clermont: Voici, je ne veux pas offusquer qui que ce soit dans l'assistance, mais nous parlons toujours des secrétaires; je crois, cependant, que la prime de 7 p. 100 devrait être accordée à tout le personnel bilingue de la Chambre des communes.

Le président: Monsieur Marceau, une question supplémentaire?

M. Marceau: Oui, et ceci devrait comprendre aussi les employés du bureau du *Whip* qui sont parfaitement bilingues et, à mon sens, on devrait les inclure également.

Le président: Merci. Monsieur Roy?

Mr. Roy (Timmins): Mr. Chairman, of course I want to associate myself with the recommendation that the Committee is making to the officials from the House and I think the only thing that needs to be added is that the implementation of this recommendation should be taken at the earliest possible time, for it has been too long in coming. Now that we have the recommendation, I would urge the House or the officials concerned to make a quick decision. Thank you.

Mr. Fraser: I have to say again, sir—and I certainly would not want to argue—but I must state for the record it is not a decision for the officials of the House to make; it is a decision for the Speaker.

Mr. Roy (Timmins): I simply urge the officials to make a decision at a very early date.

The Chairman: Mr. LeBlanc? This is the last speaker on this subject.

M. Prud'homme: Avec votre permission, monsieur le président, il y avait un point que j'avais voulu soulever, mesdames, et qui vous concerne.

Je pense que si on étend ce privilège aux secrétaires des députés, sûrement il y a une question qui aurait dû être étudiée il y a longtemps: c'est celle du personnel des Comités. Il y a des gens ici, à la Chambre des communes, et n'importe quel député qui se pencherait sur le problème au nom de la jus-

[*Interpretation*]

Mr. Clermont: A supplementary question, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Prud'homme has spoken in both languages; he spoke for two Members.

The Chairman: Mr. Marceau would also like to ask a supplementary question, and in addition, we also have other witnesses from other Departments. Go ahead, Mr. Clermont.

Mr. Clermont: I don't want to offend anyone among you, but we are still discussing secretaries. I think, however, that the 7 per cent premium should be given to all the bilingual staff in the House.

The Chairman: A supplementary question, Mr. Marceau?

Mr. Marceau: Yes, and that should also include the employees of the Whip's office who are perfectly bilingual.

The Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Roy?

M. Roy (Timmins): Monsieur le président, je désire appuyer les recommandations que le Comité a fait à la Chambre, et je pense que la seule chose à ajouter serait que l'application de cette recommandation devrait être faite aussi tôt que possible; nous avons déjà trop attendu. Maintenant que la recommandation a été présentée, je demande à la Chambre ou aux fonctionnaires de prendre une décision dès que possible.

M. Fraser: Je ne veux pas discuter, mais cette décision ne relève pas des fonctionnaires de la Chambre mais de l'Orateur.

M. Roy (Timmins): Je demande simplement qu'on prenne une décision bientôt.

Le président: Monsieur LeBlanc? C'est le dernier à prendre la parole sur cette question.

Mr. Prud'Homme: With your permission, Mr. Chairman, I wanted to raise another question which concerns you, ladies. I think that if we extend that privilege to the secretaries of the Members, surely, there is question that should have been studied long ago, i.e. the staff of the committees. They are people here, in the House—and any Member who would study this problem in the name of justice, would be of my opinion—we have French-speaking Committees Service secre-

[*Texte*]

tice, de la simple justice, serait de mon avis, nous avons des secrétaires de Comités qui sont d'expression française, qui rendent des services extraordinaires pour le bénéfice de leurs collègues unilingues, elles doivent préparer tout leur travail en français d'abord et ensuite faire leurs rapports et leur travail final en anglais.

Je pense que nous pourrions peut-être suggérer ici à ceux qui sont actuellement responsables de cette politique, de se pencher sur ce sujet. Ceci ne concerne pas énormément de gens, mais le personnel des Comités de la Chambre des communes, le personnel bilingue de la Chambre des communes, rend des services extraordinaires qui nous coûteraient beaucoup plus cher et qui nous amèneraient peut-être à multiplier et même à doubler le personnel, pour obtenir ces mêmes services, si nous n'avions que des gens exclusivement de langue anglaise ou de langue française.

Les gens qui sont bilingues ici, font souvent le travail de deux personnes et je n'en veux donner comme exemple que le travail que les secrétaires des Comités permanents de la Chambre des communes font, je veux parler des secrétaires bilingues. Alors je voudrais ajouter cela aux remarques que j'ai faites tout à l'heure.

Le président: Monsieur LeBlanc.

M. LeBlanc (Rimouski): A cause de l'importance de cette discussion, je tiens, en ma qualité de membre de ce Comité, à exprimer mon opinion. Cette question est très importante, d'autant plus que, comme plusieurs l'ont dit, depuis plusieurs années, on en discute et on réclame ce qui revient à chacun en toute justice. Il me semble aussi que le temps que nous prenons à discuter cette question et la façon dont nous le faisons depuis des années devient, je ne sais pas si le mot est bien choisi, mais devient un peu ridicule, parce que nous en parlons depuis trop longtemps.

J'ai fortement l'impression que la majorité presque unanime du Comité est en faveur que cette prime de 7 p. 100 soit allouée aussitôt que possible aux secrétaires, et immédiatement. Je tiens aussi à signaler que je suis d'avis que, dans le cas présent, il pourrait être difficile à la Régie d'exprimer une opinion contraire à celle du Comité permanent de la Chambre des communes, qui représente en quelque sorte ici le Parlement.

J'aimerais ajouter une note relativement aux circonscriptions francophones telles que la mienne, Rimouski; je pense qu'une secrétaire ou un secrétaire, dans un tel cas, doit aussi

[*Interprétation*]

taries who provide priceless services for the benefit of their unilingual colleagues. First of all, they have to prepare all their work in French, and then they have to write their reports and their final work in English.

It might be good, at this point to suggest to those who are responsible for this policy, to study the question. This does not involve a large number of people, but the House of Commons Committees Service Staff, the bilingual staff of the House of Commons, are providing priceless services which, would cost us much more and which would perhaps bring us to increase and even double our staff in order to obtain those same services, if we only had people who were exclusively French-speaking or English-speaking.

The bilingual people here, often do the work of two, and for instance, just consider the work done by the secretaries of the Standing Committees of the House of Commons, I am referring to the bilingual secretaries. I would like to add this to my earlier remarks.

The Chairman: Mr. LeBlanc.

Mr. LeBlanc (Rimouski): Because of the importance of that question I would like, as a member of this Committee, to express my opinion also. It is a very important question, and all the more so, as many have said before, we have studied it for a number of years and we claim what is rightly due to everyone. It also seems to me that the time we spend to discuss this question, and the way in which we have discussed it for years—I don't know whether the word is well chosen—becomes somewhat ridiculous because we have been talking about it too long.

I have the clear impression and most of us on this Committee are unanimous in agreeing that the 7 per cent premium should be granted to the secretaries as soon as possible, and immediately. I would also like to say that, to my mind, in this case it might be difficult for the Board to express a opinion that is contrary to that of the Standing Committee of the House of Commons which, in a way, represents Parliament here.

I would like to add something concerning French-speaking ridings such as my own, i.e. Rimouski. I think that in a case like this, a male or female secretary should also, by

[*Text*]

profiter, en toute justice, de cette prime de 7

• 1615

p. 100 si il ou elle est bilingue étant donné, comme vous le savez tous, messieurs, que même dans le cas d'une région francophone, le secrétaire ou la secrétaire doit, tous les jours, parler en anglais, non seulement auprès des fonctionnaires publics et des représentants des ministères. Dans bien des cas, il y a des employés bilingues dans les ministères, mais il arrive parfois à ceux-ci d'être sortis et il faut s'exprimer en anglais avec les employés unilingues; il en est de même dans les relations entre les députés anglophones et les députés francophones. Je pense qu'il est très facile d'estimer à au-delà de 10 p. 100, dans tous les bureaux de députés, l'utilisation de l'anglais.

Pour terminer, je me rends compte que nous nous inspirons de la politique de la Commission de la Fonction publique, et je crois que les nombreuses améliorations apportées au *standing* de la Fonction publique depuis quelques années sont attribuables au travail des commissions d'études, et je pense aussi que le rôle que la Chambre des communes, comme celui du Parlement en général, a à jouer dans la politique du Canada, est certainement aussi important, au moins égal au rôle de la Fonction publique et de l'administration en général.

Afin qu'à l'avenir, il n'y ait plus autant de tâtonnement et d'indécision pour régler des détails comme ceux-là, je me demande si nous ne pourrions pas penser, nous aussi, à avoir une commission qui pourrait faire les études nécessaires en vue d'améliorer en général le *standing*, le fonctionnement, le mécanisme de la Chambre des cmomunes non seulement en ce qui a trait aux secrétaires, mais aussi des autres membres du personnel de cette Chambre des communes. Et j'inclus, parmi les membres du personnel, tous les membres, y compris peut-être même les membres du Parlement.

C'est mon opinion. Merci.

The Chairman: Do you have a supplementary, Mr. McCutcheon?

Mr. McCutcheon: Yes, directed to Mr. de Salaberry. Did I understand you, sir, to say that sufficient facilities are not available for training secretaries in bilingualism at the moment?

Mr. de Salaberry: That is right.

Mr. McCutcheon: This is what I would like you to take back to that committee: That under no circumstances should we be so excited about this bilingualism bit that we discriminate against those who are unilingual but are willing to become bilingual. I, for

[*Interpretation*]

rights, receive this 7 per cent premium if he or she is bilingual because, as you all know gentlemen, that even in the case of a French-speaking area, the secretary has to use English every day, and Speak it, not only with civil servants and the representatives of the various Departments. In a good many cases, people are bilingual employees in the various Departments, but it happens that they are out and one has to speak English with the unilingual employees. This also applies in relations between French-speaking and English-speaking members. In all Members' offices, I am sure that the use of English amounts to more than 10 per cent.

Finally, wish to say that I realize that we are prompted by the Civil Service Commission policy, and I believe that many improvements that have been made during the last few years regarding the standing of the Civil Service can be attributed to the work of study commissions. Moreover, I also think that the role which the House of Commons, as well as Parliament in general, has to play in our policies in Canada, is certainly as important and at least equal to the role of the Civil Service and of the administration in general. To avoid, in the future, having so much time lost and indecision in solving such details, I wonder whether we also should not be thinking about having a commission that could carry out the necessary studies with a view to improving the general standing, the operation, the mechanism of the House of Commons, not only as far as secretaries are concerned, but also for the other members of the staff of the House. In the staff I include everyone, perhaps even MPs.

That is my opinion. Thank you.

Le président: Une question supplémentaire, monsieur McCutcheon?

M. McCutcheon: Oui, je m'adresse à monsieur de Salaberry. Ai-je compris, monsieur, que vous avez dit qu'il n'y avait pas d'installations suffisantes pour former les secrétaires et les rendre bilingues, en ce moment?

M. de Salaberry: C'est ce que j'ai dit.

M. McCutcheon: C'est ce que j'aimerais rapporter à ce comité. Il ne faut, en aucun cas, s'enthousiasmer du programme de bilinguisme au point que nous empêchons les unilingues de devenir bilingues. Ma secrétaire est unilingue et je ne voudrais pas la perdre. Elle

[*Texte*]

one, have a unilingual secretary that I should not like to lose. She is perfectly willing to take a course, and therefore I think it behooves you when you make your report to recommend that facilities be provided.

I do not think a secretary who has had many years of experience should be discriminated against. She should be provided with an opportunity; if she does not take advantage of it, that is her tough luck. I hope you take that back.

Mr. de Salaberry: Yes; I want to repeat that I had a great number of demands, especially from English-speaking secretaries, for French courses. I remember a circular letter or, at least, a sort of petition that was presented, signed by at least 50 or 60 English-speaking secretaries, asking for training.

M. Dumont: Monsieur le président, je crois que les Comités sont organisés et préparés dans le but d'accélérer les travaux de la Chambre. Or, comme l'unanimité semble être faite pour que cela se concrétise et qu'il n'y ait pas de discussion en Chambre, ne pourrions-nous pas procéder au scrutin afin que cette mesure puisse être adoptée le plus tôt possible?

Le président: Comme il y a un Comité qui étudie les Prévisions budgétaires, la seule mise aux voix que nous puissions faire est en regard des prévisions budgétaires qu'ils ont présentées et malheureusement nous ne pouvons même pas faire de recommandations dans notre rapport.

M. Dumont: Alors, nous avons parlé pour rien jusqu'à maintenant?

Le président: Je ne crois pas, je ne crois pas que ce soit tombé dans des sourdes oreilles et à mon avis, les déclarations, qui ont été faites par les députés, vont être étudiées de très près lors de la prochaine réunion des membres de la Commission de la Régie interne. Évidemment, nous n'avons pas parlé pour rien, soyez-en sûrs.

Avant de clore la discussion, je veux moi aussi, me joindre à mes collègues pour dire aux représentants de la Chambre que j'appuie entièrement la recommandation faite par la majorité de mes collègues.

Gentlemen, now that we have a quorum I would like to mention that at the inception of our standing committee a vice-chairman was appointed. As you may have noticed in *Hansard*, we no longer have a vice-chairman. At one time the vice-chairman was replaced by another member because he could not sit here. I think it would be in order to have a

[*Interprétation*]

veut très bien devenir bilingue; lorsque vous préparerez votre rapport, vous devriez recommander qu'on trouve les installations nécessaires.

Une secrétaire qui a de l'expérience ne devrait pas souffrir cette discrimination. On devrait lui donner une chance. Si elle n'en profite pas, tant pis pour elle. J'espère que vous allez retirer ce que vous venez de dire.

M. de Salaberry: Oui, je dois répéter que nombre de secrétaires de langue anglaise m'ont demandé des cours de Français. Je me rappelle une petition signée par 50 ou 60 secrétaires de langue anglaise et exigeant ces cours.

Mr. Dumont: Mr. Chairman, I believe that the Committees are set up in order to accelerate the work of the House. Now, as there seems to be unanimity about giving this concrete form and seeing to it that there will be no debate in the House, could we not proceed to vote on this so that this measure can be passed as soon as possible?

The Chairman: Since there is a Committee studying the Estimates, we can only vote on the estimates they have submitted, and unfortunately, we cannot even make recommendations in our report.

Mr. Dumont: So, that means that, so far, we have spoken in vain?

The Chairman: No, I don't think it fell on deaf ears and, in my opinion, the members' statements will be very closely scrutinized at the next meeting by the members of the Board of Internal Economy. You may rest assured that we have not spoken in vain.

Before ending the discussion I would also like to join my colleagues in telling the Members that I fully support the recommendation made by the majority of the members here.

Maintenant, messieurs, que nous sommes en nombre, je voudrais mentionner qu'au début de la séance du comité permanent un président a été nommé. Si vous avez remarqué au *Hansard*, nous n'avons plus de président. Le vice-président a été remplacé à une occasion parce qu'il ne pouvait pas siéger ici. Je pense qu'il conviendrait alors de présenter

[*Text*]

motion to elect a new vice-chairman. Mr. Cafik.

Mr. Cafik: I would like to move that Mr. Cullen be the vice-chairman of this standing committee.

The Chairman: It is moved by Mr. Cafik that Mr. Cullen be elected vice-chairman of this Committee.

Motion agreed to.

The Chairman: Mr. Cullen has been elected vice-chairman of our Committee. Mr. Cullen, you had another subject you wished to discuss?

Mr. Cullen: Yes. First of all I would like to thank the Committee for this honour they have bestowed upon me as a comparatively new member; I have not been here a year. Mr. Chairman, I hope you are feeling well and that you are never sick and have to miss any of the meetings until I have an opportunity to learn how to conduct a meeting as well as you do, sir.

I first want to confirm that my premise is correct, in dealing with the office of the Chief Government Whip and the Chief Opposition Whip, that in the Votes and Proceedings for June, 1965, there was a reclassification of those employees who had been known as the Secretary to the Government or Opposition Whip were called Executive Assistants to the Chief Government Whip or Chief Opposition Whip. This was a change in name only and not a change in salary. They remained at the same salary level.

I have gone over the minutes of previous meetings of this Committee and I understand that during the session these gentlemen—and I am thinking particularly of the Executive Assistants in the office of the two Whips—work extra hours, overtime hours, and there is no provision for paying them for these overtime hours. I note that from time to time the suggestion has been made that they should take additional holidays to cover this. My information, first and foremost, is that in 1968 these officials were finally paid for the overtime they had accumulated in 1966. Once again we have the same problem before us. I think in one case one of these gentlemen worked as much as 74 days extra time. This is the point I would like to make. When payment was make in 1968 for the overtime in 1966 I understand it was done on the basis of straight salary, there was no provision for time and a half or anything of that nature.

Mr. de Salaberry: This is correct, sir.

Mr. Cullen: Second, the overtime payment that is made is not taken into consideration in

[*Interpretation*]

une motion pour élire un vice-président. M. Cafik.

M. Cafik: Je voudrais proposer que M. Bud Cullen soit élu vice-président du comité.

Le président: Il est donc proposé que M. Cullen soit élu vice-président du comité.

La motion est adoptée.

Le président: M. Cullen est donc élu vice-président de notre comité. Monsieur Cullen, vous vouliez parler d'une autre question, n'est-ce pas?

M. Cullen: Oui. D'abord, je voudrais remercier le Comité de l'honneur qu'il me fait, bien que je sois relativement nouveau. Je ne suis pas ici depuis un an. M. le président, j'espère que vous êtes en bonne santé et que vous ne serez jamais malade, ce qui vous obligerait de vous absenter des séances avant que je puisse apprendre comment présider à une séance aussi bien que vous le faites.

Je voudrais d'abord, au sujet du poste de whip du gouvernement et de whip de l'opposition, confirmer que mon affirmation est juste que dans le compte rendu de juin 1965 il y a eu une reclassification et les secrétaires du whip et de l'assistant du whip qui sont devenus des adjoints administratifs. Ce n'est qu'un changement de titre et non pas un changement de salaire. Le salaire n'a pas augmenté.

J'ai revu le compte rendu des réunions précédentes, et, si je comprends bien, ces messieurs, notamment les adjoints exécutifs du bureau du whip travaillent pendant des heures supplémentaires au cours des sessions. Il n'y a aucune disposition pour payer un traitement supplémentaire. A l'occasion, on dit qu'ils devraient avoir droit à des vacances plus longues. On m'informe qu'en 1968, ces fonctionnaires ont finalement été payés pour le temps supplémentaire accumulé en 1966. Une fois encore, nous faisons face au même problème. Un de ces messieurs, je crois, a fait 74 jours de temps supplémentaire. Lorsque le paiement a été accordé en 1968, pour le temps supplémentaire de 1966, je pense que c'était leur salaire ordinaire. Il n'y avait pas de dispositions de temps et demi ou quelque chose du genre.

M. de Salaberry: C'est juste.

M. Cullen: Deuxièmement, ce salaire supplémentaire ne tient pas compte de leur pen-

[*Texte*]

thier superannuation. Their supperannuation is paid on their regular salary.

Mr. de Salaberry: This is correct.

Mr. Cullen: Third, is there an accumulation of overtime in the two Whips' offices and is there a provision for taking care of that?

Mr. de Salaberry: Yes. I think I have to take full responsibility for not bringing the matter to the attention of the Commissioners of Internal Economy. I did this—rightly or wrongly, I meant well—because of the very long recess of the House last year. As you know, when the House is in recess the day of the employee finishes at 4 o'clock. We work a 5½ hour day. Last year, on the basis of the 4 o'clock closing, all employees worked 1,608 hours as compared to 1,980, which is considered the normal work year in the public service and elsewhere.

Mr. Cullen: May I interrupt you for a moment, Mr. de Salaberry?

Mr. de Salaberry: Yes.

Mr. Cullen: I am only talking of the people in the Whip's office who have to work whether the House is in session or not. Their overtime comes in when the House is in session but as I understand it they work regular hours when the House is not in session. The office is not closed down.

Mr. de Salaberry: Sir, I checked some of the attendance records at noon—I did not check all the records—and some of the employees definitely finished at 4 o'clock dur-

• 1625

ing the recess last summer. Some of the staff from the Whips' offices are here and you can consult with them if you like. Perhaps this does not apply to all of them but certainly it applies to some.

Mr. Cullen: I am just wondering if for example last year, 1968, that in effect long hours or many days of overtime were built up despite the long recess. I realize these people are in rather a unique category and this is frankly why I feel they need representation. The secretaries can bring a whole gang of people in here and so can the public service, but these people have a unique responsibility, particularly to government—I think this is non-partisan and I believe my friends opposite would agree with me—and they are in a unique position. If we sit until 2 o'clock in the morning when the House is in session

[*Interprétation*]

sion. Leur pension est payée en vertu de leur salaire régulier.

M. de Salaberry: C'est juste.

M. Cullen: Troisièmement, à l'heure actuelle, y a-t-il une accumulation et y a-t-il des dispositions pour régler la question?

M. de Salaberry: Oui, je crois que c'est mon entière responsabilité de n'avoir pas porté la question à l'attention des commissaires de l'économie interne. Je l'ai fait, à tort ou à raison, malgré mes bonnes intentions—à cause du très long congé de la Chambre, l'an dernier. Comme vous le savez, lorsque la Chambre ne siège pas, les employés travaillent jusqu'à 4h. Nous travaillons cinq heures et demie par jour. L'an dernier, à cause de l'heure de fermeture de 4h., tous les employés ont travaillé 1,860 heures au lieu de 1,980 qui est considéré comme l'année normale de travail à la fonction publique et ailleurs.

M. Cullen: Puis-je vous interrompe s'il vous plaît?

M. de Salaberry: Oui.

M. Cullen: Je parle ici des gens qui travaillent au bureau du Whip. Ils doivent travailler même quand la Chambre ne siège pas. Ils font du surtemps lorsque la Chambre est en session, mais travaillent des heures régulières lorsque la Chambre ne siège pas si je comprends bien. Leur bureau n'est pas fermé.

M. de Salaberry: J'ai vérifié certains dossiers des présences ce midi; je n'ai pas vérifié pour tous, mais certains employés partaient à 4 h. durant l'inter-session l'été dernier. Certains membres du personnel du bureau du Whip sont présents et vous pouvez les interroger si vous le voulez. Peut-être que cela ne s'applique pas à tous, mais certainement à quelques-un.

M. Cullen: L'an dernier, en 1968, a-t-on accumulé plusieurs jours de temps supplémentaire malgré le congé prolongé? Je pense qu'ils sont dans une catégorie assez spéciale et c'est pour cela qu'ils ont besoin d'être représentés. Les secrétaires peuvent venir ici en grand nombre ainsi que les gens de la fonction publique, mais ces gens ont des responsabilités spéciales, surtout à l'égard du gouvernement, et ce n'est pas de la partisanerie, je pense que nos amis des autres partis sont d'accord que la situation de ces employés est un peu spéciale. Lorsque la Chambre siège jusqu'à deux heures du matin, ils sont ici

[*Text*]

they are here until 2 o'clock in the morning, and when the House is not in session they are not like other people who perhaps do not have to work. They have to be in their offices. I would like to see some special consideration given to them. I do not think overtime pay is the answer.

My recommendation, Mr. de Salaberry, is that they be given an increase in salary and forget about the overtime. If they want to keep a record of their overtime with a view to raising their salary at some future date, that is fine, but I think some consideration should be given to this. You have records of their overtime. This would help them with their superannuation, which is really important.

Mr. de Salaberry: I accept your point. As Director of Administration I do not think it is my job to consider anybody a special case. I think everybody who works 500 hours overtime should be treated in the same way. It is the number of hours they have to work and certainly the amount of overtime they work deserves a great deal of consideration. However, I think that people who are not in Whips' offices and who work the same hours deserve the same consideration.

Mr. Cullen: I am zooming in on the one area because I have made a point of making myself familiar with this area. You would know about it on a broader perspective, and if it is applicable to the people in the Government Whip's office and the Opposition Whip's office, then by all means it is equally applicable to other employees. If someone has to wait until 1968 for overtime earned in 1966, and then only get overtime on a regular basis and it is not practical for them to take holidays and they do not get superannuation on their salary, it seems to me we should straighten out that small—

Mr. de Salaberry: I accept this, sir. This is my responsibility and I cannot throw it off on anybody else.

Mr. Cullen: I feel it is my responsibility to bring it to your attention, so we are both happy.

The Chairman: Mr. Mather, do you have something to say on this subject or is it on another matter?

Mr. Mather: My questions have to do with House of Commons services to members of

[*Interpretation*]

jusqu'à deux heures du matin. Lorsque la Chambre ne siège pas, ils doivent être à leur bureau. Ils ne sont pas comme d'autres qui n'ont peut-être pas à travailler. Alors, je voudrais donc qu'on leur accorde une considération spéciale. La rémunération du temps supplémentaire n'est pas une solution à mon avis.

Je recommande qu'on leur donne une augmentation de salaire et qu'on laisse tomber les heures supplémentaires. S'ils veulent tenir compte de leurs heures supplémentaires afin de pouvoir réclamer une augmentation plus tard, très bien, mais je pense qu'il faudra accorder plus de considération à cet aspect. Nous avons un dossier de leurs heures supplémentaires. Ce qui leur servira pour leur caisse de retraite, qui est aussi importante.

M. de Salaberry: Oui, j'accepte ce que vous venez de dire. Mais, en tant que chef de l'administration, je ne pense pas qu'il m'appartienne de considérer qui que ce soit comme un cas spécial. Je pense que tous ceux qui accumulent plus de 500 heures de temps supplémentaires devraient être traités de la même façon. C'est le nombre d'heures qu'ils doivent travailler et le nombre d'heures supplémentaires qu'ils travaillent méritent beaucoup de considération. Toutefois, je crois que ceux qui ne travaillent pas au bureau du whip et qui travaillent aussi longtemps, méritent autant de considération.

M. Cullen: Je parle d'un cas parce que je me suis renseigné à ce sujet. Vous le voyez probablement d'une façon plus globale et si elle s'applique aux gens qui travaillent au bureau du whip du parti au pouvoir ou au bureau du whip de l'opposition, elle s'applique certainement à d'autres aussi. S'il faut attendre en 1968 pour se faire rémunérer les heures supplémentaire accumulées en 1966, et que les heures ne sont comptées qu'à temps simple; et ce n'est pas très pratique pour eux de prendre des congés, et que leur pension n'est pas augmentée en conséquence. Je pense qu'il faudrait corriger cette situation.

M. de Salaberry: C'est très bien. Je suis d'accord. C'est ma responsabilité. Je ne peux pas renvoyer la balle à qui que ce soit.

M. Cullen: J'ai cru que c'était ma responsabilité de signaler à votre attention cette situation, de sorte que nous sommes satisfaits tous les deux.

Le président: Monsieur Mather, avez-vous quelque chose à dire? Ou est-ce que c'est une autre question que vous vouliez soulever?

M. Mather: Mes questions ont trait aux services de la Chambre des communes offerts

[*Texte*]

Parliament and in one respect to staff. If that is in order, I have two or three questions.

The Chairman: All right.

Mr. Cafik: I have a supplementary in connection with this problem raised by Mr. Cullen, if I may. I am not as familliar with all the details as Mr. Cullen obviously is, but when you made payment for overtime services in 1968 for 1966 I gather that was just for the year 1966?

Mr. de Salaberry: That is correct, sir, for any time outstanding then. There was no overtime payment in the House of Commons until three years ago.

Mr. Cafik: Does that mean that they have been paid for overtime services for 1967 and 1968?

Mr. de Salaberry: No, they have not.

Mr. Cafik: They have not?

Mr. de Salaberry: No, they have not.

Mr. Cafik: Was the payment was made in 1968 for services in 1966 done in such a way that it is now a precedent, and do you expect to carry through with that principle on a regular basis?

Mr. de Salaberry: We would have to go to the Commissioners of Internal Economy, but I must take full responsibility here. I did not report on the matter because of the long dissolution period last year.

Mr. Cafik: But you would consider it to be a precedent. In other words, you feel that that money is due to these people who are involved because of the precedent which has been set?

Mr. de Salaberry: Circumstances being the same, yes.

Mr. Cafik: In other words, there does not appear to be a question as to whether they will be paid, it is a question of when they will be paid?

Mr. de Salaberry: I told you why I did not take action—because there was five months' dissolution last year—and I felt these people could have taken time off during the period of dissolution. On examining the records and so on I feel that the previous member had a point—I felt Mr. Lambert the other day had a point—and we will review the situation and bring it to the attention of the Commissioners.

[*Interprétation*]

aux députés et au personnel. Si ces questions sont recevables j'en poserais deux ou trois.

Le président: D'accord.

M. Cafik: Une question supplémentaire relative au problème soulevé par M. Cullen. Je ne connais pas aussi bien tous les détails, que M. Cullen évidemment, mais en 1968, lorsque vous avez rémunéré les services supplémentaires de 1966, je crois comprendre que cette rémunération ne portait que sur 1966.

M. de Salaberry: C'est exact. Pour toutes les heures supplémentaires qui n'avaient pas été rémunérées. A la Chambre des communes, ce n'est que depuis trois ans qu'on rémunère les heures supplémentaires.

M. Cafik: Voulez-vous dire qu'on les a payés pour le temps supplémentaire effectué en 1967 et 1968?

M. de Salaberry: Non, on ne les a pas payés.

M. Cafik: Ils n'ont pas été payés?

M. de Salaberry: Non.

M. Cafik: Bon, alors, le paiement fait en 1968 pour les services rendus en 1966 ont-ils été faits de façon à constituer un précédent, et devrez-vous suivre ce même principe désormais?

M. de Salaberry: Il faudrait évidemment s'adresser aux Commissaires de la régie interne. Naturellement, c'est moi qui suis à blâmer, parce que je n'ai pas fait de rapport à ce sujet à cause du long congé parlementaire l'an dernier.

M. Cafik: Mais vous considérez que cela constitue un précédent. autrement dit, est-ce que vous trouvez qu'on doit de l'argent aux gens intéressés étant donné que ce précédent est établi?

M. de Salaberry: Dans les mêmes circonstances, oui.

M. Cafik: Donc, il n'y a pas de doute quant à savoir s'ils seront payés ou non; il s'agit simplement de savoir quand ils seront payés.

M. de Salaberry: Je vous ai dit pourquoi je n'avais rien fait. Parce que l'intersession a duré cinq mois l'an dernier et je trouvais qu'ils auraient pu prendre congé pendant l'intersession, pendant que les Chambres avaient été dissoutes. En examinant le compte rendu, j'ai découvert que M. Lambert, l'autre jour, avait un bon argument, et nous allons revoir la situation et la porter à l'attention des commissaires à la régie interne.

[*Text*]

Mr. Cafik: I hate to press you on this point, but if in 1968 you came to the conclusion that in effect they did work overtime, then there is no question as to whether they will be paid for that overtime—if they did in fact work it.

Mr. de Salaberry: It is simply a question of going to the Commissioners, sir.

Mr. Cafik: Yes, but it would be your intention to go and get approval to do just that.

Mr. de Salaberry: I would think so, sir.

Mr. Cafik: That is fine, thank you.

The Chairman: Mr. Mather.

Mr. Mather: Mr. Chairman, I have a few questions, as I have indicated, in regard to the services to the members of the House. One touches on secretaries in a different way—the point about secretaries taking their vacation. They have two or maybe three weeks. During that period is it possible for the member who is without his secretary to secure, at no expense to himself, a substitute secretary?

Mr. de Salaberry: At the moment, no, sir.

Mr. Mather: At the present time, then, if a member's secretary takes a holiday, say in May, for two or three weeks, if he wishes to replace that secretary or her services he has to hire or pay for a substitute secretary himself in order to keep up his usual standard of service to his constituents.

Is this a situation that might not he looked at with some hope that the member would have a substitute as he does have in regard to his secretary being away on sick leave?

Mr. de Salaberry: Yes, sir. In the House of Commons we encourage employees to take their annual leave during recesses. If they do, for the inconvenience, instead of giving them three weeks' leave per year as they do in the public service, there is four weeks' annual leave. At the moment we cannot keep secretaries during a House recess without the authority of the Commissioners. We have obtained that authority for the last five or six years before I came, and without speaking for the Commissioners I would imagine that you could probably expect the same thing again—that secretaries will be allowed to stay on.

[*Interpretation*]

M. Cafik: Je ne veux pas trop insister sur ce point, mais si, en 1968, vous en êtes venu à la conclusion qu'en effet il y a eu du travail supplémentaire d'effectué, alors, il n'y a pas de question à se poser pour savoir si oui ou non ils vont être payés pour leur temps supplémentaire, s'ils ont vraiment travaillé.

M. de Salaberry: Il s'agit tout simplement d'en aviser les commissaires à la régie interne, monsieur.

M. Cafik: Oui, mais vous auriez l'intention d'avoir l'approbation pour faire exactement cela.

M. de Salaberry: En effet, monsieur.

M. Cafik: Bien, merci.

Le président: Monsieur Mather.

M. Mather: Monsieur le président, j'ai quelques questions, comme je l'ai indiqué, qui concernent les services offerts aux députés de la Chambre. Une question traite des secrétaires, d'une façon différente: le fait que les secrétaires prennent leurs vacances. Elles ont deux, peut-être trois semaines. Pendant cette période-là, est-ce qu'il est possible qu'un député qui n'a pas de secrétaire obtienne, sans encourir de frais personnels, une remplaçante?

M. de Salaberry: Pour l'instant, non.

M. Mather: Pour le moment, si la secrétaire d'un député prend congé au mois de mai pour deux ou trois semaines, si le député veut remplacer cette secrétaire, remplacer ses services, il est forcé d'engager ou de payer une suppléante lui-même, de sa poche, pour continuer à fournir des services à ses électeurs.

Est-ce qu'il n'y aurait pas moyen d'étudier cette situation dans l'espoir qu'un député puisse trouver une suppléante, ce qui est le cas, d'ailleurs, lorsque la secrétaire part en congé de maladie?

M. de Salaberry: Je vois. A la Chambre des communes, en général, nous encourageons les secrétaires à prendre leur congé annuel pendant l'intersession. Si elles le font, on compense les inconvénients en leur accordant quatre semaines de congé annuel, au lieu des trois semaines de la Fonction publique. Pour l'instant, nous ne pouvons pas garder les secrétaires pendant l'intersession sans la permission des commissaires. Nous avons obtenu cette autorisation pendant cinq ou six ans, en fait, avant que j'arrive moi-même à ce poste, et j'imagine, sans vouloir parler au nom des commissaires, que l'autorisation serait encore une fois donnée, que les secrétaires pourraient rester.

[*Texte*]

Mr. Mather: I appreciate that, sir, but in my case at least, and maybe in other members' cases, our secretaries are of equal value to us during the recess, or at least part of the recess because sometimes we are not here ourselves during the recess. The mail keeps coming in from our ridings. If we do not have somebody to answer it, we are in as bad a condition as when they are away during the working period. I just raise the point and I would ask you to give consideration to providing replacement for secretaries who are away on vacation as you do now in regard to secretaries being away on sick leave.

The Chairman: Do you have another point, Mr. Mather?

Mr. Mather: Yes, I have another point, regarding accommodation for Members of Parliament. I do not know what the situation is today, but I was told by my party's whip as late as yesterday that office space for Members of Parliament is at a considerable premium, and so much so that our party's newly re-elected Member of Parliament, Tom Barnett from Comox-Alberni, had not been able to secure an office up until that time, yesterday. Is this matter of space and accommodation for members officewise of concern? Should it be looked at and should there be some improvement in it perhaps?

The Chairman: Mr. Fraser.

• 1635

Mr. Fraser: Mr. Mather, I suspect that the question of space, not only for members of Parliament—obviously they have the priority—but for our mushrooming and exploding committee system because of the alteration in the rules, is probably our first and foremost problem. Your colleagues on the Committee on Procedure and Organization who have had a number of matters before them for consideration have made it their priority problem. They have, I think, unanimously come to a recommendation which I think was in the report tabled in the House today. There is also another committee composed of persons other than members of the House of Commons with representation from both the House and the Senate which is giving this matter top priority consideration among the many problems that face us. Whether it will result in a recommendation of the necessity of constructing a new building, of pre-empting other buildings in this area or not I do not know because the committees have not made their reports, but it certainly is our top problem.

[*Interprétation*]

M. Mather: Je comprends, mais dans mon cas, au moins, et peut-être dans le cas d'autres députés, les secrétaires sont aussi utiles pendant l'intersession, du moins pendant une partie de l'intersession, parce que nous, nous ne sommes pas toujours capables d'être ici et le courrier continue toujours d'arriver de notre circonscription. Si nous n'avons personne pour y répondre, nous sommes placés dans une situation aussi difficile que lorsqu'elles s'absentent pendant la session. Alors, je soulève la question tout simplement pour qu'on l'étudie, pour que l'on songe à fournir des suppléantes aux secrétaires qui partent pour prendre leurs vacances, comme on le fait maintenant quand les secrétaires sont malades et prennent congé.

Le président: Avez-vous un autre point à soulever, monsieur Mather?

M. Mather: Oui. Cette fois-ci, il s'agit des locaux fournis aux députés. Je ne sais pas où on en est aujourd'hui, mais hier, le whip de mon parti m'a dit que l'espace de bureau réservé aux députés fait prime, à tel point que jusqu'à hier, M. Tom Barnett, député de Comox-Alberni qui vient d'être réélu n'avait pas encore pu se trouver un bureau. Alors, cette question d'espace et de locaux pour les députés est-elle étudiée? Je pense qu'on devrait le faire, et qu'on devrait tâcher d'améliorer la situation.

Le président: Monsieur Fraser.

M. Fraser: Monsieur Mather, évidemment les députés ont la priorité, mais le problème ne se pose pas seulement pour eux, mais pour tout le système des comités, qui se développe à une vitesse folle. C'est notre principal problème, le problème de l'espace. Les membres du Comité de la procédure et de l'organisation, qui ont été saisis de plusieurs questions, en ont fait leur principal problème. En fait, ils ont présenté une recommandation unanime qui fait l'objet d'un rapport déposé à la Chambre aujourd'hui, je crois. Il y a aussi un autre comité composé de personnes autres que les députés et qui compte des représentants de la Chambre et du Sénat, qui étudie cette question avant toutes les autres, et étudie en même temps d'autres problèmes de la Chambre. Est-ce que cela entraînera une recommandation visant à construire un autre édifice ou à en faire évacuer d'autres dans le secteur? Je n'en sais rien, parce que les membres du comité n'ont pas encore présenté leur rapport; mais c'est certainement le problème numéro un.

[*Text*]

Mr. Mather: Thank you. I am glad to hear that. May I ask in connection with that if you know whether or not those considering the problem are taking into consideration the comparable situation in the United States Congress in their provision of space for members and also in regard to provision of research assistance to members as it is done in the U.S. Congress?

I realize that a start has been made here in that latter connection. We are very pleased about it. I feel these are pretty basic problems in regard to the members, so I am hopeful that something will be done about it.

Mr. Fraser: I am associated with both Committees, Mr. Mather, and I will take the first point to them as a desirable area of inspection. As far as the second suggestion is concerned, you are quite right. I think it is fair to say that perhaps the second or third problem that faces your colleagues on the Committee of Procedure and Organization is the determination of what do to about research facilities and they have subdivided it into two portions. At present I know they are giving consideration to research facilities for committees, and I also know that representations have been made on behalf of individual members in that connection.

Mr. Mather: Thank you. Those are my questions, Mr. Chairman.

The Chairman: Mr. Clermont.

M. Clermont: Monsieur le président, je veux appuyer les commentaires de M. Mather au sujet de l'absence de nos secrétaires durant leurs vacances. Il est impensable que même durant les vacances de la Chambre, la secrétaire du député ne soit pas présente, et que si elle a droit à des vacances, qu'on ne puisse la remplacer. J'admets que c'est possible d'obtenir une remplaçante lorsqu'elle est malade, mais si elle prend ses vacances annuelles, nous ne pouvons pas la remplacer. Je ne connais aucune organisation, monsieur le président, qui pourrait opérer de cette manière. Je ne sais pas de quelle manière mes collègues répondent à leur correspondance durant les vacances de leur secrétaire, mais dans mon cas c'est mon épouse qui est obligée de dactylographier ma correspondance. Le mandat, c'est moi qui l'ai eu, ce n'est pas mon épouse.

Pour moi comme pour certains députés, de la région, vous connaissez le problème, monsieur de Salaberry, c'est peut-être pire que pour les députés venant de comtés très éloi-

[*Interpretation*]

M. Mather: Je vous remercie. Je suis très heureux d'entendre dire cela. Puis-je poser une question connexe? Savez-vous si ceux qui étudient le problème tiennent compte d'une situation analogue qui existe au Congrès des États-Unis pour ce qui est des locaux fournis aux députés, et s'ils tiennent aussi compte des dispositions visant les assistants de recherches des députés qui sont à la disposition des membres du Congrès américain?

Je crois qu'on a commencé à étudier la question, ici, et nous en sommes très heureux. Je crois qu'il s'agit là de problèmes assez essentiels, assez fondamentaux, que doivent affronter les députés. Et j'espère qu'ils vont pouvoir faire quelque chose de ce côté-là.

M. Fraser: Je suis associé avec les deux comités, monsieur Mather, et je leur présenterai le premier point, pour qu'ils l'étudient. Quant à votre deuxième suggestion, je vous signale que vous avez parfaitement raison. En fait, je crois qu'il est juste de dire que le deuxième ou troisième problème auquel doit faire face le comité de la procédure et de l'organisation, c'est justement de déterminer comment on pourrait prévoir une installation de recherches. On a prévu de diviser cette question en deux. Pour le moment, je sais qu'on pense à établir des installations de recherches pour les comités, et je sais aussi qu'on a présenté des instances au nom des différents membres des comités.

M. Mather: Merci. C'est tout, monsieur le président.

Le président: Monsieur Clermont.

Mr. Clermont: Mr. Chairman, I would like to support the comments made by Mr. Mather, with respect to the absence of our secretaries during their holidays. I think it is incredible that even during a recess, an MP's secretary is not there, and that if she is entitled to holidays, she cannot be replaced. I do admit that it is possible to get somebody to replace her when she is sick, yet if she takes her annual leave, we cannot replace her.

I have never heard of any organization, Mr. Chairman, that could operate in such a manner. I do not know how my colleagues answer their correspondence in the absence of their secretary when she is on leave. In my case it is my wife who is forced to type my own letters. Yet I am the one who was elected, not my wife.

In my case, and also for some MPs from this area—you know the problem, Mr. de Salaberry; it might be worse for MPs coming from far away ridings—our constituents are

[*Texte*]

gnés, parce que nos électeurs à nous sont près de la capitale et téléphonent à nos bureaux Et si notre secrétaire est partie en vacances, il n'y a pas de réponse. J'espère, monsieur de Salaberry, que vous pourrez rapporter à la Commission qu'en 1969 il est impensable que, quand la secrétaire part en vacances nous n'ayons pas le droit de la remplacer.

Dans un autre domaine, monsieur le président, un commis de grade 3, de la Fonction publique et un autre commis de grade 3, de la Chambre des communes, ont-ils un salaire égal, même à la suite de l'augmentation de 6 p. 100?

M. de Salaberry: Dans la fonction publique, monsieur Clermont, il n'y a plus de commis de grade 3.

M. Clermont: Non, mais pour l'équivalent, monsieur de Salaberry.

M. de Salaberry: Je m'occupais de classification et de salaires, avant de venir à la Chambre des communes. A date, nos salaires, je crois pour ces niveaux-là, sont un peu plus élevés qu'à la Fonction publique. Mais aussitôt que l'accord sera signé avec le groupe qui transige actuellement avec le Conseil du Trésor, nos employés seront quelque peu en arrière.

M. Clermont: Monsieur de Salaberry, est-ce qu'il n'y aurait pas une différence entre 250 et 300 dollars par année?

M. de Salaberry: Je ne pourrais pas vous répondre. Je peux vous assurer que les commissaires ont accepté, il y a trois ou quatre ans, de revoir les salaires des employés et de les reviser, s'il y a lieu, le premier juillet de chaque année. La même chose sera faite cette année par les commissaires.

M. Clermont: Dans un autre domaine, monsieur le président, prenons l'exemple de deux fonctionnaires de la Chambre des communes, avec des qualifications égales: un est dans la division de l'administration, l'autre, dans la division de la législation. Est-ce que les deux fonctionnaires reçoivent la même rémunération?

M. de Salaberry: Cela dépend de leurs devoirs et de leurs responsabilités. Les qualités sont un facteur . . .

M. Clermont: Vous allez peut-être répondre comme à la Chambre des communes, lorsqu'on pose une question irrecevable ou hypothétique, comme je l'ai fait cet après-midi et on m'a dit que j'étais dans les patates. . .

Une voix: Pas l'Orateur.

[*Interprétation*]

close to the federal capital and they telephone our offices. And if our secretary is out on leave, then there is no answer. I do hope, Mr. de Salaberry, that you will be able to report to the Board that in 1969 it is unheard of that you should not be entitled to have a replacement for your secretary when she is on leave.

Now to take up another matter, Mr. Chairman, does a Clerk 3 in the Public Service and a Clerk 3 in the House of Commons, have the same level of salary, even after the 6 per cent increase?

M. de Salaberry: In the Public Service Mr. Clermont, there are no longer any Clerks class 3.

Mr. Clermont: But how about the salary levels, Mr. de Salaberry?

Mr. de Salaberry: I was dealing with classification and salaries before I came to the House of Commons. Right now, I believe that at those levels, our salaries are somewhat higher than in the civil service. But as soon as the agreement is signed with the group which is right now bargaining with the Treasury Board, our employees will be behind by a small margin.

Mr. Clermont: Mr. de Salaberry, would there not be a difference of about $250 or $300 a year?

Mr. de Salaberry: I cannot answer you. I can assure you that the Commissioners accepted, three or four years ago, to review the salaries of employees and revise them, if necessary, on the 1st of July of every year. This will be done every year by the Commissioners.

Mr. Clermont: Turning to another field, Mr. Chairman, let's take two employees of the House of Commons who have the same qualifications: one is in administration and the other in the legislative branch. Do the two employees receive the same remuneration?

Mr. de Salaberry: This, of course, depends on their duties and responsibilities. Qualifications are a factor .

Mr. Clermont: Perhaps you will answer as they do in the House of Commons when we ask questions which are considered out of order or hypothetical, as happened to me this afternoon, when I was told that I was away out in the field. . .

An hon. Member: Not the Speaker.

[*Text*]

M. Clermont: Non, certains de mes collègues, parce que ma question concernait la pomme de terre. Est-ce que le même fonctionnaire qui va dans l'administration ou dans le secteur législatif, recevrait le même salaire?

M. de Salaberry: J'espérerais qu'à responsabilités égales, ils reçoivent le même salaire. S'ils ne reçoivent pas le même salaire, c'est parce que l'ouvrage chez moi est mal fait.

M. Clermont: J'ai une troisième et dernière question pour le moment, monsieur le président. Quel moyen a le fonctionnaire de la Chambre des communes lorsqu'il veut porter un grief au sujet de son emploi?

M. de Salaberry: Il y a une procédure. Tous les employés ont une copie de la procédure à suivre.

M. Clermont: Quelle est-elle, grosso modo?

M. de Salaberry: Il peut faire appel à son surveillant; s'il n'est pas satisfait il peut écrire au président du *Staff Board*...

M. Clermont: En un mot, vous avez un organisme qui permet à un fonctionnaire, qui a des griefs à porter au sujet de son travail, de pouvoir le faire.

Le président: C'est comme dans l'armée, du caporal au général.

M. Clermont: Merci, monsieur le président, et non pas monsieur le général.

Le président: Monsieur McCutcheon?

Mr. McCutcheon: Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman.

May I refer back to the questioning that Mr. Cullen instigated in connection with the staff in the various whips' offices. As I understand it, Mr. de Salaberry, in each office there is an executive assistant, a confidential messenger and a secretary. Can you tell me, sir, what is the salary of each of those categories? I ask this question having regard to the fact that this overtime business obviously has not worked. It has caused discontent and so on. What is the stipend of the executive assistant?

Mr. de Salaberry: I should have brought my salary list. I have not it with me. I will be glad to give you this information.

Mr. McCutcheon: Then of course you would not be able to give me the figure for the confidential messenger and how much in total this would average out per year were the

[*Interpretation*]

Mr. Clermont: No, but some of my colleagues, because my question had to do with potatoes. Does an employee who goes into administration or into the legislative branch get the same level of salary?

Mr. de Salaberry: I would hope that they would get equal pay for equal responsibilities. If they don't get equal pay, it is because my work has not been done properly.

Mr. Clermont: Mr. Chairman, my third and last question for the moment is as follows. What means are available to a House of Commons employee when he wants to present a grievance with respect to his job?

Mr. de Salaberry: There is a procedure and all the employees have a copy of the procedure they are supposed to follow.

Mr. Clermont: What is it, roughly speaking?

Mr. de Salaberry: They can call upon their supervisor and if they are not satisfied, they can write to the President of the Staff Board...

Mr. Clermont: In other words, you have a system that enables an employee, who has a grievance with respect to his job, to actually present the grievance.

The Chairman: It is just like in the Army, you go from the corporal to the general.

Mr. Clermont: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

The Chairman: Mr. McCutcheon?

M. McCutcheon: Merci, monsieur le président. Puis-je me reporter aux questions de M. Cullen sur le personnel des différents bureaux des whips. Si j'ai bien compris, monsieur de Salaberry, dans chaque bureau, il y a un adjoint administratif, un messager confidentiel et un secrétaire. Pouvez-vous me dire quel est le salaire dans chacune de ces catégories d'emploi? Je pose cette question étant donné que la question des heures supplémentaires n'a évidemment, pas eu de résultat. Cela crée beaucoup de mécontentement et autres. Maintenant, quel est le salaire de l'adjoint administratif?

M. de Salaberry: Je n'ai pas apporté la liste de paie. Je ne l'ai pas sur moi. Je serai heureux de vous donner ce renseignement.

M. McCutcheon: Donc, vous n'êtes pas en mesure de me donner le salaire du messager confidentiel ni le montant annuel si on payait le temps supplémentaire.

[*Texte*]

overtime paid. My thinking is along this line. It would seem to me, rather than keeping these records and so on, that probably a simple solution would be to advance those individuals one category. Would that be a practical solution.

Mr. de Salaberry: Well, from the point of view of good personnel practice, sir, I would say that it is not good for anybody to work

• 1645

1,000 hours of overtime in any one year. Supposedly the normal hours that employees work provide for a reasonable amount of work, a reasonable amount of stress, a reasonable amount of recreation and a reasonable amount of rest. I do not believe in employees working 4,000 hours a year and I think it is poor organization if they are called upon to do so. In some cases this cannot be prevented. In committee work sometimes the employees have to work all night, but if we ask them to do this repeatedly I think it is wrong—and I think it is poor personnel practice.

Mr. McCutcheon: In other words, you still favour the overtime system.

Mr. de Salaberry: Until overtime gets to such a point that employees do not get sufficient rest, leisure and recreation. I think everybody requires a certain amount of time off.

Mr. Clermont: Even Members of Parliament.

Mr. de Salaberry: I realize that you are overworked, sir.

Mr. McCutcheon: I hope that I can obtain the information from you that I requested.

The Chairman: Mr. McCutcheon, would you mind if the information is sent to the Clerk and then printed in the Proceedings.

Mr. McCutcheon: This, of course, is what I had in mind.

Mr. de Salaberry, I would recommend a review of this situation with the view, if it is a nice way out, of advancing them one category.

There is one other matter that I would like to bring up but I do not know whether this is the proper place or time to do it. However, I know that our good Chairman will tell me if I get out of line.

I am referring to the automobile allowances for Members of Parliament. I think the 7

[*Interprétation*]

Voici mon raisonnement. Il me semble qu'au lieu de donner du travail supplémentaire de paperasse, qu'on résolve la question en avançant simplement ces employés d'une catégorie. Est-ce que ce serait commode ou non?

M. de Salaberry: Au point de vue du personnel, je dirais qu'il n'est pas bon pour personne de travailler 1,000 heures supplémentaires par année. Je pense que les heures normales de travail pour nos employés prévoient une certaine part de travail, de tension, de loisir et de repos. Je ne pense pas que les employés travaillent 4,000 heures par année. A mon avis, s'ils doivent travailler ainsi, cela prouve une organisation très pauvre. Dans certains cas, par exemple, on ne peut pas l'empêcher. A cause du travail des Comités, par exemple, les employés doivent travailler toute la nuit, mais si on leur demande de le faire de façon répétée, je pense que c'est très mauvais comme pratique de relations avec le personnel.

M. McCutcheon: Autrement dit, vous favorisez le système de temps supplémentaire.

M. de Salaberry: Jusqu'à ce que le temps supplémentaire soit si important que les employés n'aient pas assez de loisir et de repos. Je pense que tout le monde a besoin de certains loisirs.

M. Clermont: Même les députés?

M. de Salaberry: Je constate que vous êtes surchargés de travail, monsieur.

M. McCutcheon: J'espère que vous pourrez me fournir les renseignements que je vous ai demandés.

Le président: Monsieur McCutcheon, avez-vous objection à ce qu'on envoie l'information au greffier et que ces renseignements soient imprimés dans le compte-rendu.

M. McCutcheon: C'est exactement ce que j'envisageais. Monsieur de Salaberry, je proposerais une révision de la situation dans le but de voir si c'est une bonne manière de les avancer d'une catégorie.

Il y a un autre point que j'aimerais soulever, mais je ne sais pas si c'est le bon moment ou le bon endroit pour le faire. Je sais que le président me dira si je m'éloigne du sujet. Je me reporte aux allocations pour les automobiles des députés. Je pense que les 7c du mille que l'on paie dans le moment ne

[*Text*]

cents a mile that they are being paid at the present time is completely unrealistic. May I give you a classic example?

I use my car by preference but I am entitled to an airplane ticket to my area which comes to $62 return. On getting off the plane I am still 65 miles away from my home and I presume that I could charge 7 cents per mile on that trip from my home to the airport, which then adds up to about $66 or $67. I have an automobile that has an accurate speedometer in it, I drive it home, and I make the complete round trip in my own car for $61.04, which is really a hell of a lot cheaper than Air Canada.

Mr. Mather: It is operating too!

Mr. McCutcheon: Also, I do have the extra luxury of going and returning when I choose. It is my understanding that in the Civil Service the allowance is 12 cents per mile. Can you explain this disparity.

The Chairman: Mr. de Salaberry, Can you explain the discrepancy between 7 cents and 12 cents?

Mr. Cullen: On a point of order, Mr. Chairman, while they are looking into this may I ask how long it is your intention to sit. I notice that we have two other votes and we are keeping a lot of people waiting. Is it possible that some could be permitted to leave rather than waiting to see whether we reach a vote. Would that be in order?

The Chairman: I am in the hands of the Committee. If you want to sit until 6 o'clock we might hear the Department of Supply and Services. I understand the Minister is coming to make a statement. Perhaps we could have the opening statement by the Minister and then if it is too late we could adjourn and resume our discussion on this matter another time. Have you finished, Mr. McCutcheon?

Mr. McCutcheon: I did not get an answer yet.

Mr. de Salaberry: I just do not have an answer to this. The Senate pays 10 cents per mile, we pay 7 cents per mile, in the Public Service they pay 4½ cents per mile if there is

• 1650

handy public transportation available. In your case you are about 40 miles away...

[*Interpretation*]

s'appuient pas sur la réalité. Laissez-moi vous donner un exemple classique.

Je me sers de mon auto parce que je préfère le faire. Et j'ai droit à un billet d'avion pour me rendre dans ma circonscription, ce qui représente $62 pour un billet aller et retour. Mais en empruntant l'avion, je suis encore à 65 milles de chez moi, et je pense que je pourrais charger 7c du mille pour le trajet que je fais de chez moi à l'aéroport, ce qui porte le compte à $66 ou $67. L'indicateur de vitesse de mon automobile est très exact et pour le voyage aller et retour cela me revient à $61.04, ce qui coûte beaucoup moins cher que par Air Canada bien sûr.

M. Mather: Et ça fonctionne aussi.

M. McCutcheon: Merci. J'ai aussi le loisir de me rendre chez moi et de revenir quand je veux. Je crois comprendre que, dans la Fonction publique, l'allocation est de $0.12 du mille. Pouvez-vous m'expliquer cette différence?

Le président: Monsieur de Salaberry, pouvez-vous expliquer la différence entre $0.12 et $0.07?

M. Cullen: J'invoque le Règlement, monsieur le président. Pendant qu'ils regardent leurs chiffres, combien de temps avez-vous l'intention de siéger? Je vois qu'il y a encore deux crédits à étudier, et je sais qu'il y a beaucoup de gens qui sont retenus ici. Est-ce que l'on pourrait permettre à certains de partir plutôt que d'attendre pour voir si on arrive aux crédits ou non? Serait-ce possible?

Le président: Je suis à votre disposition. Si vous voulez siéger jusqu'à dix-huit heures, nous aurons peut-être la chance d'entendre le ministre des Approvisionnements et Services. Je crois comprendre que le ministre doit venir faire une déclaration. Nous devrions peut-être avoir la déclaration du ministre, après quoi nous pourrions ajourner et reprendre les débats sur cette partie de la question à un autre moment. Monsieur McCutcheon, avez-vous fini?

M. McCutcheon: J'attends la réponse.

M. de Salaberry: Je ne peux pas y répondre. Pour le Sénat on paie $0.10 du mille, pour nous, $0.07, pour la Fonction publique $0.04½ du mille s'il y a des moyens de transport publics disponibles. Dans votre cas, vous demeurez X peu près X 40 milles d'ici?

[*Texte*]

Mr. McCutcheon: Sitxy-five.

Mr. de Salaberry: Then they would not pay 4½ cents a mile; they would pay 12 cents a mile. It is 13 cents per mile where you carry special insurance, where your travelling is more than so many miles. I think you are being short-changed.

Mr. McCutcheon: That is the understatement of the year.

The Chairman: We all agree on that.

Mr. McCutcheon: Would Mr. Fraser take that back to the...

Mr. Fraser: Yes, sir; I should say that this matter is already, by way of an informal committee, before your colleagues the Commissioners, along with a number of other suggestions that various members have made. I know they are seized of this. What I will do, if I may, is, at their meeting within the netx 7 or 10 days, point out to them that this problem was raised at this Committee.

Mr. Cafik: I wonder if I could bring a point up here, Mr. Chairman.

The Chairman: Will you hold it? Mr. Ricard wants to speak on the same subject. Mr. Ricard?

M. Ricard: Je veux simplement accorder mon appui à ce que M. Gullen a dit. Je crois que, sans le personnel des bureaux des whips, nous serions bien souvent mal pris. Une reclassification devrait être faite pour ce qui est des employés de ces deux services. Je crois qu'aucun syndicat n'endurerait des conditions de travail et de salaire qui privent les employés de ce qui leur revient. Je pense que, de mentionner le problème ici, bien, c'est solutionner le problème à moitié, sinon entièrement.

Enfin, comme M. McCutcheon, je pense que nous devrions nous aussi, députés, recevoir 12c. du mille pour nos dépenses de voyage.

Le président: Monsieur Cafik?

Mr. Cafik: On this matter of travel, I will give you an example of where I happen to live. The public believe we are paid transportation to and from Ottawa, but what they do not understand is that we are taken from airport to airport, rather than from door to door. In my particular case—and this does not always apply because sometimes I get my wife to pick me up—if I have to take a cab to the airport here and back home, it costs me $14 each way or $28 a trip, which is roughly equivalent to the air fare. I am paying half the shot of getting back and forth every week

[*Interprétation*]

M. McCutcheon: Soixante-cinq.

M. de Salaberry: On ne vous donnerait pas 4½c. alors; on vous donnerait 12c. du mille, ou 13c. du mille, lorsque vous avez une assurance spéciale, si vous voyagez plus d'un nombre déterminé de milles. Personnellement, je pense que c'est vous qui y perdez.

M. McCutcheon: Mais c'est l'euphémisme de l'année, je pense!

Le président: Nous sommes d'accord.

M. McCutcheon: Monsieur Fraser aura-t-il l'obligeance de reprendre?

M. Fraser: Oui. Je dirais que la question est déjà connue, au moyen d'un Comité non officiel, par vos collègues ainsi que les commissaires d'autres suggestions qui ont été faites par des députés. Je sais qu'ils sont au courant. Ce que je ferai, avec votre permission, à la prochaine réunion qui aura lieu d'ici 7 à 10 jours, c'est de leur signaler que la question a été soulevée au Comité.

M. Cafik: Je me demande si je pourrais préciser ici.

Le président: Pouvez-vous attendre? Monsieur Ricard veut intervenir sur les mêmes questions. Monsieur Ricard.

Mr. Ricard: I simply want to support what Mr. Cullen just said. I think that without the staff of the Whip's Office, we would often be in a jam. I think that the employees of these two services should be re-classified. I do not think that any union would bear such working and pay conditions that deprive employees from what is due to them. I think that the fact of mentioning this problem here, amounts to solving it half-way, if not wholly. And finally, I agree with Mr. McCutcheon, that Members of Parliament should also get 12 cents a mile for their travelling expenses.

The Chairman: Mr. Cafik?

M. Cafik: Je veux parler de la question du déplacement. Pour ne vous citer que mon cas, je crois que la population pense qu'on paie nos déplacements aller et retour. Ce qu'on ne comprend pas, c'est qu'on nous amène d'un aéroport à un autre et non pas d'une porte à une autre. Dans mon, cas, cela ne s'applique pas toujours, parce que ma femme vient parfois me chercher, mais s'il fallait que je prenne un taxi de l'aéroport jusque chez-moi, cela me coûterait $14 chaque fois, ce qui voudrait dire $28 par voyage, ce qui revient presqu'au prix de l'avion. Cela veut dire que je

[*Text*]

and I think this applies to many people. I do not think 10 cents or 12 cents a mile corrects that problem. Either we pay the shot from door to door or we do not. I cannot see this half-way measure that we have at present.

The Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Cafik. Shall Vote 20 carry?

Vote 20 agreed to.

The Chairman: We wish to thank the two witnesses. At the last meeting we discussed the Science Council of Canada. Vote 20, $1,300,000. Shall Vote 20, Science Council of Canada, General Administration, carry?

Vote 20 agreed to.

The Chairman: Now, be ready to start with other witnesses from the Department of Supply and Services. We will start with the Deputy Minister as the Minister is not here. Mr. Clermont?

M. Clermont: D'après l'ordre du jour que vous nous avez fait parvenir, le deuxième point devrait être l'étude des postes 80 et 85, concernant la Commission de la Fonction publique.

Le président: Oui, c'était cela, mais comme les témoins sont ici depuis assez longtemps, nous avons pensé renverser l'ordre un peu pour...

M. Clermont: Les témoins de la Commission de la Fonction publique sont-ils ici?

Le président: Oui, cela apparaît à l'ordre du jour que j'ai envoyé.

• 1655

This is the way it was set up on the notice of the meeting, but at the last meeting we decided otherwise. That is an error by the Clerk.

M. Clermont: Personnellement, je n'ai aucune objection, monsieur le président, mais je me demande si les témoins de la Fonction publique sont ici également.

Le président: A la dernière réunion, nous avons décidé de procéder dans l'ordre où nous procédons à l'heure actuelle, mais une erreur s'est glissée sur l'avis de convocation parce qu'on...

M. Clermont: D'ici six heures, ces personnes-là seront appelées à témoigner devant le Comité, alors, je crois que...

[*Interpretation*]

paie la moitié de mes frais de déplacement pour faire l'aller-retour entre Ottawa et mon domicile et je crois que c'est ainsi pour plusieurs. Je ne trouve que $0.10 ou $0.12 du mille règle le problème. Que l'on paie les déplacements d'une porte à l'autre ou qu'on ne le paie pas. Je ne peux me contenter de cette demi-mesure.

Le président: Merci, monsieur Cafik.

Est-ce que le crédit n° 20, est adopté?

Le crédit n° 20 est adopté.

Le président: Nous aimerions remercier les deux témoins. A la dernière réunion, nous avions discuté au sujet du crédit n° 20—Conseil des sciences du Canada, au montant de $1,300,000. Est-ce que le crédit n° 20, Conseil des sciences du Canada, Administration générale, est adopté?

Le crédit n° 20 est adopté.

Le président: Nous sommes maintenant prêts à entendre d'autres témoins du ministère des Approvisionnements et Services. Nous allons demander au sous-ministre, de s'approcher, étant donné que le ministre est absent. Monsieur Clermont?

Mr. Clermont: According to the agenda you sent us, the second item was to be the study of Votes 80 and 85, concerning the Public Service Commission.

The Chairman: Yes, that was it, but since the witnesses are here since quite a while we thought it would be better to change the order a bit in order to...

Mr. Clermont: Are the witnesses of the Public Service Commission here?

The Chairman: Yes, that is in the agenda I sent.

C'est ce qui était indiqué sur l'avis de convocation, mais, à la dernière réunion, nous avions décidé autrement. C'est une erreur du greffier.

Mr. Clermont: Personally, Mr. Chairman, I have no objection, but I wonder whether the Public Service witnesses are also here.

The Chairman: At the last meeting, we decided to follow the order that we are following right now, but there was a mistake in the notice of the meeting, because...

Mr. Clermont: Those people will be called to testify before the Committee between now and six o'clock, so I think that...

[*Texte*]

Mr. Cafik: Mr. Chairman, on a point of order. What page is this in our Blue Book?

The Chairman: It is page 382. We have as witnesses Mr. H. R. Balls, Deputy Minister of Services and Mr. J. W. Hunter, Deputy Minister of Supply. I wonder, Mr. Balls, whether you have an opening statement?

Mr. Balls: Mr. Chairman, I had hoped that our Minister would be here and I expect he will be within the next two or three minutes. I wonder if we could wait ? I know Mr. Jamieson would very much like to make an introductory statement to the Committee.

The Chairman: We got in touch with him. I think we may as well wait unless you have specific questions to ask at the start for General Administration, Vote 1, until the Minister comes in. That would be on page 382, Vote 1, Department of Supply and Services, General Administration $3,992,000. Mr. Cafik?

Mr. Cafik: On page 384 of the Blue Book, under A—Department, $2,111,000 seems to me to be a fantastic amount of money for postage for this kind of department. I am sure it is justifiable but perhaps we might have a brief explanation of why this figure is so great in this type of department.

The Chairman: That is on page 384?

Mr. Cafik: Yes, that is right, in the value of services provided that are not included in the estimates directly. The item is the carrying of franked mail.

• 1700

Mr. Balls: Mr. Chairman, perhaps I could give a preliminary reply to that. The Services component of the Department of Supply and Services issues and mails all Family Allowances cheques; all Old Age Security cheques. The total number of cheques that are issued by the government approximate at the present time 90 million. This accounts in large measure for the amount of the postage that you see recorded there, $2,111,000.

Mr. Cafik: And it is part of your Department's responsibility to issue these cheques?

Mr. Balls: The responsibility of the Services component is to make all payments on behalf of the government, and there are approximately 90 million at the present time.

Mr. Cafik: That is fine, thank you. I did not realize that.

[*Interprétation*]

M. Cafik: J'invoque le Règlement, monsieur le président. A quelle page se trouvent ces crédits dans notre Livre bleu?

Le président: C'est à la page 382.

Les témoins seront M. H. R. Balls, sous-ministre des Services, et M. Hunter, sous-ministre des Approvisionnements. Monsieur Balls, avez-vous une déclaration d'ouverture à faire monsieur Balls.

M. Balls: Monsieur le président, j'aurais souhaité que notre ministre soit ici, mais je pense qu'il arrivera dans quelques minutes. Je me demande si nous pourrions attendre? Je sais que monsieur Jamieson aimerait faire une déclaration.

Le président: Nous lui avons parlé. Alors, je pense qu'on devrait attendre un peu, à moins que vous n'ayiez des questions précises à poser touchant au crédit n° 1, Administration générale. Cela se trouve à la page 382, crédit n° 1, ministère des Approvisionnements et Services, administration générale, $3,992,000. Monsieur Cafik.

M. Cafik: Monsieur le président, à la page 384 du Livre bleu, sous A-Ministère, il semble que $2,111,000 est une somme fantastique pour les timbres, pour ce genre de ministère? Cette dépense est sûrement justifiable mais nous sommes en droit de demander une brève explication sur ce chiffre.

Le président: Est-ce à la page 384?

M. Cafik: Oui, c'est bien cela, en se basant sur la valeur des services fournis qui ne sont pas compris directement dans les prévisions budgétaires. Le poste est réservé au courrier affranchie.

M. Balls: Monsieur le président, pourrais-je donner une réponse préalable. Les services du ministère des Approvisionnements et Services émettent et postent tous les chèques d'allocation familiale et de la pension de vieillesse. Le nombre de chèques est d'environ 90 millions. Cela explique le grand nombre de timbres, c'est-à-dire une valeur de 2 millions 111 milles dollars.

M. Cafik: Votre ministère est chargé d'émettre ces chèques?

M. Balls: La Direction des services doit faire tous les paiements au nom du gouvernement; en ce moment, il y en a 90 millions.

M. Cafik: Merci. Je ne le savais pas.

[*Text*]

Mr. McCutcheon: I have a supplementary. What would account for a $900,000 increase between 1968-69 and 1969-70?

Mr. Balls: There are two or three things, Mr. Chairman. First, of course, there is a substantial increase in the number of cheques each year. In very rough and round figures, the increase in the number of cheques that we issue each year, and consequently in the number of cheques that must be sent through the mail, is approximately 5 million a year. In addition to that, there have been very substantial increases in postal rates.

The Chairman: Would that be on account of the Old Age Security pension cheques being mailed to those 66 and 65 years of age?

Mr. Balls: This also would have a great deal to do with it. The age of entitlement has been reduced over the last two or three years starting at age 70, and now it is down to either 67 or 66.

Mr. McCutcheon: You mentioned an increase in postal rates, but what in the name of Harry will it be next year when we really have an increase in postal rates, which apparently has not been reflected here, has it?

Mr. Balls: Not in total; no, sir.

Mr. McCutcheon: Wow!

Mr. Cullen: Concerning the 90 million figure, is that $90 million or 90 million cheques?

Mr. Balls: There are 90 million cheques that are issued by the Department in the course of a year on behalf of all other departments of government.

Mr. Cafik: I have a further supplementary on that. Has there been any study of the amount of duplication resulting from government cheques going into one home in a given month? Some of them must be getting two and three different pieces of mail from the government. Has there been any attempt to marry all this together and cut out some of this cost?

Mr. Balls: Mr. Chairman, there has been some attempt in this regard. As I think you are aware, the Old Age Security payments have been melded with the Canada Pension Plan payments. However, you must bear in mind that the administrative costs of arranging to consolidate a number of obligations of the government into one payment also costs money.

Mr. Cafik: Yes, but that would be a capital cost, surely. Once it was done then it would be a matter of maintenance of the system.

[*Interpretation*]

M. McCutcheon: Question supplémentaire. Pourquoi y a-t-il eu une augmentation de $900,000 entre 1968-1969 et 1969-1970?

M. Balls: Parce que le nombre de chèques augmente chaque année, entre autres raisons. En chiffres ronds, le nombre de chèques qui sont faits chaque année et qui sont expédiés par la poste, est d'environ 5 millions. En plus, il y a les tarifs postaux qui ont beaucoup augmenté.

Le président: Est-ce que cela dépend de la pension de vieillesse, qui est envoyée aux gens de 65 et 66 ans?

M. Balls: Oui, c'est un autre facteur. L'âge où l'on a droit à la pension de vieillesse recule progressivement depuis quelques années. Maintenant, nous en sommes rendus à 67 ou 66 ans, de 70.

M. McCutcheon: Vous avez mentionné une augmentation du tarif postal. Qu'arrivera-t-il l'an prochain, lorsque les tarifs postaux augmenteront beaucoup? Cela n'apparaît pas ici.

M. Balls: Pas au total, non.

M. McCutcheon: Fichtre!

M. Cullen: S'agit-il de 90 millions de dollars, ou de chèques.

M. Balls: Non, il s'agit de 90 millions de chèques, au nom de tous les autres ministères.

M. Cafik: Autre question supplémentaire: a-t-on fait des études sur le double emploi venant du nombre de chèques qui sont envoyés dans le même foyer chaque mois. A-t-on déjà essayé de regrouper tout cela et de réaliser certaines économies? Certains foyers reçoivent plusieurs chèques du gouvernement.

M. Balls: Monsieur le président, on a essayé. Comme vous le savez, les chèques de la Sécurité de la vieillesse sont ajoutés aux chèques du Régime des pensions du Canada. Toutefois, il ne faut pas oublier les frais administratifs nécessaires pour regrouper tous ces chèques en un seul paiement.

M. Cafik: Ce serait une immobilisation. Une fois que ce serait fait, il suffirait tout simplement de maintenir le système.

[*Texte*]

Mr. Balls: Some of these are recurring payments, of course, and this would be possible, and this is the reason it has been done in cnnection with the Canada Pension Plan and the Old Age Security. But there are others that vary in amount from month to month and it is not possible to anticipate the amount. You would have to calculate this and the administrative costs of bringing together several varying amounts would be quite considerable.

The Chairman: If you send two Old Age Security cheques to a family, to a husband and a wife, do you mail them at the same time or are there two letters?

Mr. Balls: My understanding is that they are enveloped separately.

The Chairman: They are enveloped separately?

Mr. Cafik: Well, surely that kind of thing could be amalgamated into one cheque.

Mr. Gundlock: Put all the cheques in one envelope.

Mr. Balls: There are some very considerable difficulties in that. It is not always possible to ensure that payment is made properly. Are you going to envelope and deliver it to the husband or to the wife? There are some very real difficulties, I can assure you.

Mr. Cafik: Yes, I can see, and some public relations problem as well, I am sure.

The Chairman: All right, gentlemen; now that the Minister is here I think he would be interested in making an opening statement. Mr. Don Jamieson.

• 1705

Hon. Donald C. Jamieson (Minister of Supply and Services and Receiver General): Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. I apologize to members for being a few minutes late. I was in another committee and it is a long distance from one building to another when you cannot run the hundred yards in four minutes.

This new Department of Supply and Services has been discussed considerably over the last few months and on the first occasion when the Estimates were introduced in the House last fall, at which time I made a fairly comprehensive statement regarding its objectives and what was proposed under the consolidation program. Subsequent to that we had a full day, or virtually a full day, in the House, when the program itself was up for committee stage, so I believe that members

[*Interprétation*]

M. Balls: Dans bien des cas on l'a fait; par exemple, pour le Régime de pension du Canada et pour la Sécurité de la vieillesse. Il y en a qui varient d'un mois à l'autre: ce n'est pas possible dans ces cas. Il faudrait le calculer et les frais administratifs de ce regroupement seraient assez considérables.

Le président: Si les chèques de la Sécurité de la vieillesse sont envoyés au mari et à la femme, sont-ils expédiés ensembles ou séparément?

M. Balls: Dans deux enveloppes différentes, je crois.

Le président: Séparément?

M. Cafik: Cela pourrait sûrement être envoyé dans une seule enveloppe.

M. Gundlock: Oui, les mettre tous dans une seule enveloppe.

M. Balls: Cela pose bien des difficultés. Il n'est pas toujours possible d'établir que le paiement a été fait correctement. Faut-il expédier le chèque à la femme ou au mari? Les problèmes existent, je vous assure.

M. Cafik: C'est un problème de relations publiques, sans aucun doute.

Le président: Maintenant que le ministre est ici, je pense qu'il aimerait faire une déclaration. Monsieur Donald Jamieson.

L'hon. Donald C. Jamieson (Ministre des Approvisionnement et Services, et Receveur général): Merci beaucoup, monsieur le président. Je m'excuse de mon retard, j'assistais à une autre séance de comité et c'est loin lorsqu'on ne court pas le cent verges en quatre minutes.

On a traité beaucoup du nouveau ministère des Approvisionnements et Services depuis quelques mois. Lorsque les crédits ont été présentés à la Chambre, l'automne dernier, j'avais fait une déclaration fort longue et détaillée concernant ses objectifs et ce qui était proposé dans le programme d'amalgamation. Ensuite, à la Chambre, pendant presque toute une journée, lorsqu'on préparait le programme pour l'étude du comité, on en a encore parlé beaucoup. C'est pourquoi je

[*Text*]

generally have a fairly good comprehension of what is intended for the new Department of Supply and Services.

I do not want to take much time in covering old ground today because by so doing I may not touch on the matters about which you wish to question me and the officials. Briefly, as I believe you know, the new Department represents an amalgamation of the former Department of Defence Production on the one hand and the office of Comptroller of the Treasury on the other. These represent what I would describe broadly as the supply side and the service side. In addition, of although there was a relationship previously between the Department of Defence Production and the office of Printing and Stationery, this has now been made complete and it is an integral part of the operations of this Department.

On the supply side members will, I suspect, know that under the legislation we have statutory authority and, in a sense, a mandate to act as the sole purchasing agent for the federal government, for its departments, and for a great many of the federal government agencies and some Crown Corporations. Some are excluded as, for example, CNR, CBC and corporations in that category. By design we have the authority, which will certainly be utilized, to transfer back to certain departments and agencies purchasing authority of a unique or special nature. I am thinking specifically of the National Gallery, for example. I do not think members of the Committee would sleep well at night if they knew that an uncultured so and so like me was over in Europe buying $300,000 or $400,000 Rembrandts, so this authority, although it is vested in the Department is, in fact, transferred back to people who have a special competence in that field.

Although we have the authority now to act as exclusive purchasing agent, I am sure members will appreciate this is not something that one can take on overnight and so we have a phasing-in plan. We have a number of departments for which we are now functioning on a 100 per cent basis; there are others which will come under the umbrella, as it were, of the Department over the next few months and, perhaps, year or two. We are most anxious to achieve the goal of total purchasing as rapidly as we can, but that is conditional on our effectiveness. In other words, we do not want to take on more than we can handle or, to phrase it another way, bite off more than we can chew.

Related to the purchasing function is one that in my opinion is equally useful and valid, and that is materiel management for the

[*Interpretation*]

pense que les députés, de façon générale, comprennent fort bien ce qu'est le ministère des Approvisionnements et Services.

Je ne veux pas revenir sur ce qui a été dit car ce n'est pas à ce sujet que vous voulez m'interroger, et interroger mes agents. Comme vous le savez sûrement, le nouveau ministère représente une fusion de l'ancien ministère de la Production de défense, d'une part, et du Bureau du contrôleur du Trésor, d'autre part. Cela représente vaguement le côté des approvisionnements et celui des services. En outre, même s'il existait déjà des rapports entre le ministère de la Production de défense et le Bureau des impressions et de la papeterie, ce dernier fait maintenant partie de notre ministère.

Du côté des services, les députés savent que, conformément à la Loi, nous sommes autorisés, et c'est même notre mandat, à agir comme le seul acheteur du gouvernement, au nom de tous les ministères, pour un bon nombre d'agences du gouvernement et pour certaines sociétés de la Couronne. Certains sont exclus, comme le National-Canadien, Radio-Canada et autres sociétés du même genre. Nous sommes autorisés, et nous le ferons sûrement, à transférer à certains ministères et organismes le pouvoir d'achat lorsqu'il s'agit de choses d'une catégorie spéciale. Je pense, par exemple, à la Galerie nationale. Je ne pense pas que les membres du Comité dormiraient en paix s'ils savaient que des gens sans culture comme moi allaient en Europe acheter des Rembrandt de $300,000 ou $400,000. Alors, même si cela relève de nous, nous transférons notre autorité à des gens qui sont compétents en ces domaines.

Même si nous sommes autorisés exclusivement à agir comme agents d'approvisionnement dès maintenant, vous vous rendrez compte que ce n'est pas une tâche qui s'apprend du jour au lendemain. Nous procédons donc étape par étape. Il y a un certain nombre de ministères pour lesquels nous faisons tous les achats. D'autres viendront s'ajouter à nos responsabilités d'ici quelques mois et d'ici un an ou deux. Nous voulons réaliser nos objectifs, c'est-à-dire de faire la totalité des achats, aussi rapidement que possible, mais cela dépend de notre efficacité. Nous ne voulons pas prendre de trop grosses bouchées au début.

En plus des fonctions d'achat, et en relation avec ces fonctions, il y en a une qui me paraît également utile, soit l'administration du

[*Texte*]

federal government and its agencies. Not only will we perform the buying function for departments, but to an ever increasing extent we aim to warehouse and hold common usage items in particular so that these will be available for all departments. We have a pilot project under way here in Ottawa at the present time, a central warehousing operation, and I would be pleased, incidentally, if members had the time on any occasion to arrange a tour of this facility to see how it is operating.

It is quite an impressive achievement and already we have an indication that it is going

• 1710

to be highly beneficial from a cost point of view because of our being able to buy in large quantities common usage items for use throughout the Public Service, for example.

We can achieve economies of scale, we can achieve economies in terms of being able to eliminate a great many storage areas and put them all in the one centre. Incidentally, in addition to the monetary values that we obtain, we think that we have enough evidence to show that the Departments are getting a better service and a more rapid delivery of the things that they want.

There are a great many side comments I could make in regard to both the purchasing and the materiel management. I will simply make one or two to show you the direction in which we are heading. We have achieved a good deal more standardization than was present previously in the public service. We buy a very substantial quantity, for example, of office equipment and the like every year—typewriters and office machines of one kind or another. By determining standards and by spelling out in a sense what kinds, brands, types, if you like, of equipment are acceptable we have been able to achieve economies of scale through bulk buying that type of thing.

We have also achieved this year for the first time what I think is a very significant breakthrough in terms of the purchasing of vehicles of various kinds which are used by all government departments. Through having standing contracts and negotiating directly with major suppliers, we are satisfied now—although the program has been in effect for only a very brief period—that there will be very significant savings in terms of the cost of these vehicles.

Now I have purposely left aside up until now the major purchasing function of the Department, which still is of course for the Department of National Defence, and

[*Interprétation*]

matériel pour le gouvernement fédéral et ses organismes. Non seulement nous nous occuperons de faire les achats, mais nous allons entreposer et conserver certaines pièces d'équipement qui seront à la disposition de tous les ministères. Nous avons un projet-pilote en marche, à Ottawa: un entrepôt centralisé; si les députés en ont l'occasion, j'aimerais bien qu'on organise une viste de cet entrepôt pour qu'on leur montre comment il fonctionne.

C'est une réalisation fort impressionnante et il nous apparaît déjà qu'au point de vue

coût ce sera très utile, car nous pourrons acheter en grande quantité des articles utilisés communément dans la Fonction publique. On peut réaliser des économies, en éliminant plusieurs entrepôts et en les regroupant dans un seul endroit. Incidemment, en plus des avantages monétaires, je crois que nous pouvons aussi prouver que les ministères sont mieux servis et plus rapidement.

Il y a beaucoup d'autres commentaires que je pourrais ajouter au sujet des achats et de la gestion des stocks. Je n'en mentionnerai qu'un ou deux pour vous donner une idée de ce à quoi je veux en venir. Nous avons pu arriver à beaucoup plus de normalisation que nous en avions auparavant. Nous achetons chaque année une quantité substantielle de matériel de bureau, machines à écrire, machines de bureau, etc. En établissant des normes et en précisant quelles marques, quel modèle, etc. du matériel qui sont acceptables, nous avons pu réaliser des économies d'échelle en achetant en gros.

En outre, cette année pour la première fois, nous avons pris une autre initiative en achetant divers véhicules qu'on met à la disposition de tous les ministères. Grâce aux contrats permanents et aux négociations avec les fournisseurs importants, même si le programme n'est en vigueur que depuis peu, nous sommes convaincu qu'il apportera beaucoup d'économies sur le coût des véhicules.

J'ai sciemment laissé de côté jusqu'ici la principale fonction d'approvisionnement du ministère qui est toujours les achats fait pour le ministère de la Défense nationale, et les

[*Text*]

the activities that I have been outlining with regard to materiel management and the like are exclusively for so-called civilian departments. The Department of National Defence, with some exceptions, will continue to do its own materiel management of the highly specialized items that they require. However, we do virtually all of the purchasing for the Department of National Defence in addition to those things that I have already outlined.

I am sure that there are many other aspects of the supply side on which I could spend some time but, with your permission, I would like to move on to the service side. This is the element which I stated at the outset is made up of what was formerly the office of the comptroller of the Treasury. Mr. Herb Balls, a very distinguished public servant, was the Comptroller of the Treasury and has now become the Deputy Minister of the Department (Services). This side of the Deparment is responsible for a wide variety of financial and related procedures in so far as the federal government is concerned and perhaps I might give you the best picture of it by dividing it broadly into two categories.

One part of our responsibilities is statutory—that is, it is assigned to us by law and we are required by law to carry it out. I gathered that as I entered the room you were discussing the cheque issue function. There are quite literally scores of others in which the Department is engaged—the maintenance of records, the preparation of the public accounts and a host of related activities which I know Mr. Balls will be more than pleased to outline to you should you so desire.

On the other side there are what I call the client service functions of the Department. These are capabilities which we possess, expertise and skills which have been developed within the Department but which other departments are not obligated by law to use. For instance, we are responsible for the central data processing centre. Through this centre we can make available to other departments who have a computer need expertise and facilities which we think will enable them to carry out their own functions more efficiently and, hopefully, more economically.

We have the central management consultant services. Perhaps the best parallel to this in private enterprise would be the sort of consulting firm that one brings in in search of better management techniques and the like. Within this group there are men who are

• 1715

highly skilled and who can be called upon by other departments and agencies for advice

[*Interpretation*]

activités que j'ai mentionnées à l'égard du matériel, de la gestion, et ainsi de suite, sont uniquement pour les ministères civils. Le ministère de la Défense nationale, à quelques exceptions près, continuera à assurer la gestion des produits très spécialisés dont il a besoin. Toutefois, nous faisons pratiquement tous les achats du ministère de la Défense Nationale en plus de tout ce que j'ai déjà mentionné.

Je suis sûr qu'il y a bien d'autres aspects des approvisionnements dont je pourrais parler, mais avec votre permission, je voudrais maintenant passer aux services. C'est la section qui était autrefois le bureau du contrôleur du Trésor. Le contrôleur du Trésor M. Herb Balls, un fonctionnaire très distingué, est maintenant le sous-ministre du ministère (services). Ce secteur du ministère est chargé d'un certain nombre de procédures financières et connexes au sein du gouvernement fédéral, et peut-être que je vous donnerais une meilleure idée, si je le divise en deux catégories principales.

Une de nos responsabilités est statutaire, la loi nous y oblige. Je pense que vous discutiez de l'émission des chèques à mon arrivée. Il y a bien d'autres activités auxquelles notre ministère travaille, la mise à jour des dossiers, la préparation des comptes publics, et bien d'autres activités dont M. Balls sera des plus heureux de vous parler plus en détail, si vous le désirez.

D'autre part, il y a ce que j'appelle les services aux clients. Ce sont des compétences que nous avons, des expertises et des compétences que nous avons constitué au sein du ministère et auxquelles les autres ministères ne sont pas obligés d'avoir recours aux termes de la Loi. Le centre des traitements et des données par exemple, par lequel nous pouvons fournir à d'autres ministères qui ont besoin d'ordinateurs, des expertises et des services qui leur permettra de s'acquitter de leurs fonctions plus efficacement et plus économiquement aussi.

En outre, nous avons un service de conseillers en matière de gestion. La meilleure comparaison dans l'entreprise privée est le genre de sociétés-conseils auxquelles on fait appel pour améliorer nos techniques de gestion, et ainsi de suite.

Nous avons des personnes très spécialisées dans ce service et auxquelles les ministères et

[*Texte*]

and suggestions on how their departments or agencies may be able to function better.

May I call your attention, if you have not seen it already, to a most interesting study, which is one piece of evidence of the work of this group, on the make-up of the senior people within the Canadian Federal Civil Service. This was published not long ago in I think the *Executive* magazine. It illustrates the kind of work which is done and which threw up, as a result of studies, certain facts and figures with regard to the age groups, the expertise, the qualifications, the salary ranges—that kind of thing within the higher echelons of the civil service. As I recall the article, it pointed up two or three perhaps potentially serious problems in that so many of them are within one age group and we might well find that a lot of our more senior people are disappearing out of the service at practically the same time. I just mention that in passing as one example.

This group is available to any government agency or department that wishes to make use of it. We have, in addition to that, audit advisory services, financial advisory services—all within Mr. Ball's service side of the new Department of Supply and Services.

I think I perhaps could leave both of these in anticipation of your questions which will no doubt indicate the areas of your interest and simply say that as the Minister of this Department I have certain responsibilities for various Crown corporations—for example, Crown Assets Disposal Corporation, the Canadian Commercial Corporation and, in another way, for Polymer Corporation.

All in all we seem to have put together here what on first glance might appear to be a bit of a grab bag but which I feel, from the experience that I have now had there in the last eight or nine months, is a very justifiable concept. It is one that had the full endorsation of the Glassco Commission. Many of the things that I have outlined to you were in effect before I assumed responsibility and therefore I cannot take the credit for them. But we are moving now more rapidly, since we have the statutory authority, to create the kind of agency, the kind of department that we hope will accomplish substantial savings. There is some evidence that we have done this already.

I have mentioned in a general way the benefits to be achieved from concentrated or centralized material management. We think that in the Ottawa area on this one test project that we can show savings of between 10 and 20 per cent on the operation so far. And this is my aim. I feel that the Department

[*Interprétation*]

les organismes peuvent faire appel pour obtenir des conseils afin d'améliorer leur service.

Il y a une étude des plus intéressante sur la composition des hauts fonctionnaires de la fonction publique préparée par l'équipe spéciale. L'étude a été publiée récemment dans *Executive Magasine*. Elle illustre le genre de travail qui est fait et révèle des faits et des chiffres à l'égard des groupes d'âge, les salaires, la compétence, les études, etc., aux échelons supérieurs de la fonction publique. Si je me souviens bien, on signalait deux ou trois problèmes qui pourraient s'aggraver parce qu'il y en a une forte proportion qui sont dans le même groupe d'âge et il se peut qu'on constate un jour qu'un bon nombre de haut-fonctionnaires disparaissent presque en même temps.

Ce groupe d'experts-conseils est à la disposition de tous les ministères et organismes. En outre, nous avons des experts-conseils en matière de finances et de vérification, qui relèvent tous de la direction de M. Balls.

Peut-être que je pourrais maintenant m'interrompre et répondre à vos questions qui révèleront évidemment les domaines qui vous intéressent. Je dirai simplement qu'à titre de ministre, j'ai certaines responsabilités à l'égard de certaines sociétés de la couronne, la Corporation Commerciale Canadienne, la Société de disposition des biens de surplus de la couronne, et, d'une autre façon, la société Polymer.

Dans l'ensemble, il semble que nous avons regroupé ici ce qui à première vue peut paraître des sujets disparates, mais d'après l'expérience que j'ai eue depuis huit ou neuf mois, je pense que cette conception se justifie. Elle est pleinement appuyée par le rapport de la Commission Glassco. Beaucoup de choses que j'ai mentionnées étaient déjà en vigueur avant que je sois nommé à la tête de ce ministère, et je ne peux pas en prendre le crédit. Mais nous progressons plus rapidement, maintenant que la loi nous y autorise, à la création d'un organisme, d'un ministère qui, nous l'espérons, permettra de réaliser de grandes économies. Il y a déjà des preuves que nous avons économisé.

J'ai mentionné de façon générale les avantages à tirer d'une gestion centralisée des matériaux. Je pense que le programme pilote d'Ottawa indique qu'on réalise des économies de 10 à 20 p. 100. C'est mon objectif. Il me semble qu'il faudrait que le ministère soit le plus axé sur le monde des affaires, et que

[*Text*]

should be perhaps the most business-oriented department in government, that we are in a sense a business operation—we are spending very sizeable amounts of the public's money, perhaps $1 billion in terms of Canadian revenues and the like plus an estimated $300 million in the last year on behalf of foreign governments, most of it through the Canadian Commercial Corporation. So this is big business in every sense of the word and in my view it requires a business-like approach and the kind of business-like controls, many of which have already been implemented but more of which, I hope, to be able to implement in the months ahead.

I think that is perhaps as much as I need to say at the opening of this question period but I will be glad, Mr. Chairman, to answer any questions, as will my officials here this afternoon.

The Chairman: Mr. McCutcheon.

Mr. McCutcheon: Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman.

I enjoyed very much the remarks of the Minister. I was intrigued by his reference to an auditing set-up and as a member of the Public Accounts Committee, I am concerned and interested about the audit taking place at the Davie Shipyard. Is there any correlation between your auditing department and that of the Auditor General in this particular endeavour?

Mr. Jamieson: Mr. McCutcheon, I understand that the Public Accounts Committee suggested that a representative of the Auditor General be added to the team that I ordered for the Davie audit. We certainly had no objection to that. I do not know what the status of it is at the moment and whether or not it has been done. Perhaps Mr. Hunter or Mr. Balls could comment.

Mr. Balls: Mr. Chairman, my understanding is that the audit team, which is from the Audit Services Branch of our services component, is now engaged in the audit. I under-

• 1720

stand that arrangements are being made with the Auditor General's office for a representative to be there and to be present in connection with the audit.

Mr. McCutcheon: Thank you very much. So that I will not be accused of partisanship or ignoring Mr. Balls, might I refer him to page 384 and ask just one short question. Under Department A:

> Contributions to Superannuation Account (Treasury Board): 1969-70: $9,380,400; 1968-69: $2,533,000.

[*Interpretation*]

nous sommes, d'une certaine façon une entreprise; nous dépensons une bonne partie des fonds publics, peut-être un milliard de dollars, plus environ 300 millions de dollars au nom de gouvernements étrangers, surtout par l'entremise de la Corporation commerciale canadienne. Nous brassons donc de grosses affaires et cela exige, à mon avis, des contrôles et des attitudes semblables à ceux des entreprises privées; nous avons déjà fait des progrès en ce sens et nous espérons réaliser ce but davantage au cours des mois à venir.

Je pense que je vais m'en tenir à cela pour l'instant mais c'est avec plaisir que je répondrai à vos questions, monsieur le président, et que mes fonctionnaires en feront autant.

Le président: Monsieur McCutcheon.

M. McCutcheon: Merci beaucoup, monsieur le président.

Les remarques m'ont bien intéressé. Comme je suis membre du Comité des comptes publics, j'ai été surpris lorsqu'il a parlé des travaux de vérification; je m'intéresse plus particulièrement aux vérifications en cours au chantier naval Davie. Y a-t-il des rapports entre votre bureau de vérification et celui de l'Auditeur général à cet égard?

M. Jamieson: Monsieur McCutcheon, le Comité des comptes publics a proposé qu'un représentant du bureau de l'Auditeur général fasse partie de l'équipe créée pour la vérification du chantier naval Davie. Nous ne nous y opposons pas. Je ne sais pas quel est son statut à l'heure actuelle ou si l'on a fait quelque chose. Peut-être que M. Hunter ou M. Balls pourraient répondre.

M. Balls: Monsieur le président, je crois comprendre que l'équipe de vérification qui vient de la Direction des services de vérification, de notre ministère, travaille actuelle-

ment à cette vérification. Il y a des ententes avec le bureau de l'Auditeur général pour qu'il y envoie un représentant à l'égard de cette vérification.

M. McCutcheon: Merci beaucoup. Afin qu'on ne m'accuse pas de partisanerie, puis-je renvoyer M. Balls à la page 384 et lui poser une brève question. Sous «Ministère»:

> Cotisations au Compte de pension de retraite (Conseil du Trésor): 1968-1969: $2,533,000; 1969-1970: $9,380,400.

[*Texte*]

Mr. Balls: You are commenting...

Mr. McCutcheon: I would like to ask you, Mr. Balls, what is significant... well, of course, $7 million is pretty damn significant.

Mr. Balls: Mr. Chairman, I would ask if I could take this under advisement. May I point out that this is an estimate of a token amount that is included in other appropriations which should have been included which, if we were making the payments for ourselves would have been included in our appropriations.

I would like, if I may, Mr. Chairman, to take this under advisement and I would be very pleased to give you the reason for this.

The Chairman: Maybe you could give us the answer at our next sitting.

Mr. Balls: I would be very pleased to do so.

The Chairman: Mr. Cafik.

Mr. Cafik: I too would like to congratulate the Minister on his very clear, lucid statement here today. It certainly clarified in my mind many of the functions of the Department.

I have a few questions here that I would like to ask and I will make them as brief as possible.

First of all, when the Department of Supply and Services is asked by another department to make a purchase on their behalf, at that stage are you given the information that would give you a guideline as to what you should pay for that particular service or that particular piece of equipment? I am thinking particularly of a specialized field such as printing. Let us say the government Printing Bureau requests that you farm out X documents and you get 100,00 of them printed. Would they indicate by way of estimate on their side what that thing should cost in their view before you place the contract so that you can judge the fixed price when it comes in?

Mr. Jamieson: In a general way I think I can answer yes. They would, of course, have to measure the requirement against an appropriation. In other words they would have to know whether they had the funds and so on to cover it and presumably there would be some relationship between the two. But I will ask Mr. Hunter to answer that in a more specific way.

Mr. Hunter: Mr. Chairman, what the Minister has said is quite right. We receive a requisition with the estimate of the depart-

[*Interprétation*]

M. Balls: Vous commentez...

M. McCutcheon: Monsieur Balls, je voudrais vous demander ce qui est important— évidemment 7 millions, c'est une somme énorme.

M. Balls: Monsieur le président, puis-je attendre avant de répondre? Je pourrais également vous signaler qu'il s'agit d'une somme qui apparaît ailleurs. Si les paiements étaient faits en notre nom, elle aurait été incluse dans nos propres prévisions.

Je préférerais attendre pour répondre, monsieur le président et serais heureux de vous dire pourquoi.

Le président: Est-ce que vous pourriez nous donner la réponse à la prochaine réunion?

M. Balls: Très bien.

Le président: M. Cafik.

M. Cafik: Moi aussi, je voudrais féliciter le ministre pour son exposé clair et lucide. Il m'a permis de comprendre plusieurs des fonctions du ministère.

Il y a quelques questions ici que je voudrais poser; je serai aussi bref que possible.

Lorsqu'un ministère vous demande d'acheter quelque chose en son nom, est-ce qu'il vous donne les renseignements relatifs à ce que vous devriez payer pour ce service ou cet équipement? Dans un domaine spécialisé comme l'impression, par exemple. Supposons que l'Imprimerie nationale vous demande de faire imprimer X documents et que vous en faites imprimer 100,000 exemplaires. Est-ce qu'on fournira un estimé, au départ, de ce que vous pouvez vous attendre à payer afin que vous puissiez juger l'offre qui vous est faite avant d'adjuger le contrat.

M. Jamieson: De façon générale, je peux répondre oui. Évidemment, ils doivent s'assurer qu'ils ont les fonds nécessaires. Et il y aura probablement rapport entre les deux. Je demanderais à M. Hunter d'apporter plus de précisions.

M. Hunter: Monsieur le président, ce que le ministre a dit est très juste. Nous recevons une demande d'un ministère qui y ajoute un

[*Text*]

ment that they believe will cover this requirement. If our estimate by just looking at it quickly were very different we would draw it to their attention right away. If we thought it was within reason, it was something new perhaps, we might call tenders and then if we found that it was substantially more we would point it out to the department at that time. But usually we can determine when we receive the requisition whether the department is in the ball park.

Mr. Cafik: All right. When you farm out the job, do you always get competitive bids in all cases, or are there certain exceptions? If there are, you might explain the reasons why in general terms.

Mr. Jamieson: May I deal with that from a policy point of view and perhaps ask Mr. Hunter to fill in the details.

It is my information and certainly my own personal conviction that we should go to the maximum extent possible to competitive tender. And increasingly I think in the civilian department purchases this is the case. In the case of items for the armed services it is not always the case, but it is still our objective to do that and I have indicated consistently that wherever it is possible to get competitive tenders we should do so. And now, if Mr. Hunter will be good enough perhaps he can explain those circumstances where that procedure is not always possible.

Mr. Hunter: Mr. Chairman, there are several cases where it is not possible sometimes to go to tender where it might possibly be a development contract where we would call for proposals from a number of people who might be able to handle it, or it might be one person in the country who had this special know-how. We would call that one contractor in and negotiate a development contract possibly. It might be something completely new for which there had been no specification and when, perhaps due to urgency, there might not be time to write one. That might be another case. There might be certain cases where a contract was of a confidential nature or very classified, where perhaps only two or three firms who had had a security clearance would have to handle it. Those are three cases that come to mind. There are several others.

Mr. Cafik: When you place an order for a particular department for goods or services to an outside supplier and the product is completed, does it arrive at the Department of Supply and Services or does it go directly to the department that originally requested it?

[*Interpretation*]

estimé de ce qu'il en coûtera, à son avis. Si notre propre estimé, au premier coup d'œil, nous apparaît très différent, nous portons le fait à l'attention du ministère. Si nous trouvons l'estimé raisonnable nous demanderons peut-être des appels d'offres. Si les prix qu'on nous réclame sont substantiellement plus élevés, nous le signalerons au ministère. Règle générale, lorsque nous recevons la demande, nous pouvons dire si l'estimé du ministère est réaliste.

M. Cafik: Très bien. Lorsque vous affermez les travaux, les offres sont-elles toujours concurrentielles, ou y a-t-il des exceptions. Dans l'affimative, pourriez-vous expliquer, rapidement.

M. Jamieson: Puis-je parler de la politique que nous suivons, quitte à laisser à M. Hunter le soin d'expliciter?

Je suis convaincu personnellement que nous devons essayer d'obtenir des offres concurrentielles. Je crois que de plus en plus, c'est le cas. Dans le cas d'achats pour les forces armées, ce n'est pas toujours la même chose, mais c'est toujours notre objectif d'essayer de le faire. J'ai répété à plusieurs reprises que chaque fois qu'il était possible d'obtenir des offres concurrentielles, nous devrions le faire. Monsieur Hunter pourra peut-être vous expliquer dans quelles circonstances il est impossible de suivre cette procédure.

M. Hunter: Monsieur le président, il y a bien des cas où il n'est pas possible de le faire. Pour certains contrats, nous demanderons que nous soumettent des offres ces quelques personnes que nous jugeons capables d'effectuer le travail. Peut-être, également, qu'une seule personne, au pays, est en mesure de l'effectuer. Nous pourrions convoquer cette personne et négocier un contrat avec elle. Il peut s'agir d'un aspect nouveau. Peut-être n'y a-t-il pas de devis, et en raison de l'urgence de la situation, peut-être n'y a-t-il pas suffisamment de temps pour en préparer. Il peut s'agir d'un contrat de nature confidentielle ou même très confidentielle, et seules les deux ou trois compagnies acceptées du point de vue sécurité pourraient alors en être saisies. Voilà trois exemples, mais il en existe plusieurs autres.

M. Cafik: Lorsque vous placez une commande pour un ministère, chez un fournisseur extérieur et que la commande est remplie, est-elle expédiée directement au ministère des Approvisionnements ou au ministère qui en a fait la demande?

[*Texte*]

Mr. Jamieson: There would be variations in that. Mr. Hunter.

Mr. Hunter: In most cases it would be delivered to the department, received by them. An inspection might be required at, say, National Defence, or it might be at the plant, but it would be received by National Defence.

Mr. Cafik: The point I am trying to get at is that the responsibility for ascertaining that goods and services received are up to scratch and meet the specifications and so on, is the responsibility of the department that originally ordered and not the Department of Supply and Services. Is that correct?

Mr. Hunter: This would not be so in all cases. In certain civilian departments there are special arrangements made for the acceptance and testing but these vary widely, actually.

Mr. Jamieson: I add to that too that of course the materiel management to which I referred earlier is bringing more and more of these common usage items into our central warehouse, in which case they do in fact come to this Department, and then they are farmed out on a requisition basis to other departments and agencies as they need them.

Mr. Cafik: In the event that orders are placed for goods and services, is it within your competence to determine or to make recommendations as to whether the department itself ought to produce this stuff? Today when I was at the Printing Bureau I asked if the Bureau fabricated its own envelopes—there are obviously millions of envelopes being used—and I understand that they do not; that these are subcontracted, probably through your department.

I wondered if, when you saw this recurring business in a very large volume, it would be within your competence to make a recommendation to the Bureau that perhaps we ought to buy equipment and do this ourselves and we would save money over a period of time. Or would you pay no attention to that type of problem?

Mr. Jamieson: Perhaps I can answer you best without dealing with the envelope example, although it is a very good one. What you are really raising is the whole issue of make or buy. And it is one, of course, on which there are a variety of opinions within the service and indeed within private industry, I suppose.

The Glassco Commission tended to come down on the side of buying; in other words

[*Interprétation*]

M. Jamieson: Cela varie. Monsieur Hunter.

M. Hunter: Normalement, au ministère intéressé. Il sera peut-être nécessaire d'effectuer une vérification, disons, à la Défense nationale, ou là où le produit sera utilisé, mais il sera livré à la Défense nationale.

M. Cafik: Voici ce à quoi je veux en venir. A qui revient la responsabilité de vérifier si les produits ou les services reçus sont tels qu'ils devaient être: au ministère qui a placé la commande ou au ministère des Approvisionnements? A celui qui a placé la commande, n'est-ce pas?

M. Hunter: Ce n'est pas vrai dans tous les cas. Pour certains ministères civils, il y a des ententes spéciales relatives à l'acceptation et à la vérification des produits mais les méthodes varient énormément.

M. Jamieson: J'ajouterai que ce service dont j'ai parlé plus tôt fait livrer la plupart de ces biens d'usage commun à son entrepôt central, de sorte qu'à ce moment-là c'est notre ministère qui les reçoit. Ils sont ensuite distribués, sur demande, aux ministères et agences.

M. Cafik: Lorsque des commandes sont placées pour certains biens ou services pouvez-vous décider ou suggérer que le ministère en question produise lui-même ces produits? Lorsque je suis allé à l'Imprimerie nationale, aujourd'hui, j'ai demandé si l'Imprimerie fabriquait ses propres enveloppes, et il y a des millions d'enveloppes d'utilisées. Je crois comprendre que l'Imprimerie ne les fabrique pas. Elles sont obtenues de l'extérieur, probablement par votre entremise.

Je me demande, lorsque vous vous rendez compte que des commandes très importantes sont remplies à maintes reprises, s'il serait de votre compétence de suggérer que l'Imprimerie devrait peut-être acheter l'équipement nécessaire et effectuer le travail, épargnant ainsi de l'argent à la banque. Ou est-ce que vous n'accordez aucune attention aux problèmes de ce genre?

M. Jamieson: Je pense que je peux vous répondre sans prendre l'exemple des enveloppes, même si c'est un excellent exemple. Vous vous demandez, en fait, s'il est préférable d'acheter ou de fabriquer. Naturellement, ici, il y a différentes opinions au sein du service de même que dans l'industrie privée, j'imagine.

La Commission Glassco était plutôt de l'avis qu'il fallait acheter; en d'autres mots que

[*Text*]

that government should be in the making business to the minimum extent that was consistent with economy. We are taking another look at this in certain areas to see whether there are some places where it might be wiser and less expensive for us to do things on our own. I would suspect, without having any special competence at all in the matter, that on a thing like envelopes, even though our volume may appear to be very sizable, in relation to the amount that a plant set up exclusively for that purpose would produce for all customers, we would find that it is still better for us to go outside.

It is my intention, and indeed certain steps have been taken already along this line, to explore more thoroughly the whole question of make or buy, both in terms of civilian required items and those for outside. But I do not believe that you can give a cut and dried answer to that. I think I would be less than honest if I said that there was a clear-cut policy on it. There is not.

Generally speaking we tend to buy rather than to make because our experience has been that that is better for us in the long run.

Mr. Cafik: In Public Accounts this morning we found that there was in one particular department, the Printing Bureau, about $18,000 in 1966 which was lost because of the inability to take advantage of cash discounts because other departments had failed to sign documentation indicating that the goods arrived in a satisfactory condition and so on. I woudl think that if that was true in the Printing Bureau, perhaps that same problem might exist here within Supply and Services. Is there such a problem?

Mr. Jamieson: I am sure that there would be in some respects, although I think it is very much under control and will be more under control through this materiel management process that I have outlined.

What we have tried to do, and I personally am most impressed by what has been done—again I can say this because I had really not too much to do with it—is to develop standards. We are developing coded items, we are employing computers and the like and we have developed a pretty good capacity to anticipate in terms of common usage items what the annual needs are going to be and what the ultimate phasing out of a particular need is going to be. As I say, I think if you were to see the warehouse you would be impressed too by the fact that this is pretty much under control. I would question very much from the civilian side whether there are

[*Interpretation*]

le gouvernement devrait fabriquer le moins possible, tout en tenant compte de l'aspect économie. Dans certains domaines, nous envisageons de nouveau la question pour voir s'il n'y a pas moyen, dans certains cas, d'économiser en effectuant le travail nous-mêmes. Bien que je n'aie pas de compétence particulière en ce domaine, je crois que pour ce qui est des enveloppes, même si notre consommation est élevée, et par rapport à la production d'une usine spécialisée pour l'ensemble de ses clients, nous réaliserions qu'il est préférable d'acheter.

J'ai l'intention, et d'ailleurs certaines mesures ont déjà été prises, de ré-étudier toute cette question. Je ne crois pas qu'il soit possible de fournir une réponse claire et nette. J'aurais tort de vous laisser croire que la politique est bien définie, à ce sujet.

Mais de façon générale, nous avons tendance à acheter plutôt qu'à fabriquer parce que l'expérience nous a montré que c'est préférable pour nous à la longue.

M. Cafik: Au comité des comptes publics, ce matin, nous avons remarqué que l'Imprimerie nationale a perdu $18,000 en 1966, certains escomptes n'ayant pas été accordés parce que divers ministères avaient négligé de signer les documents attestant que les biens avaient été reçus en bon état. Je serais porté à croire que si c'est vrai pour l'Imprimerie, le même problème peut se présenter ici.

Est-ce que ce problème existe?

M. Jamieson: Dans certains cas, je suppose que oui. Mais je crois que le problème est réglé et qu'il le sera davantage grâce à l'instauration de ce système dont je vous ai parlé.

Je suis fort impressionné par ce qui se fait d'ailleurs, je le dis, parce qu'en fait, je n'ai pas eu grand chose à faire là-dedans, mais ce que nous faisons c'est que nous mettons des normes au point. Nous établissons des codes, nous utilisons des ordinatrices et avons mis au point de bonnes méthodes pour prévoir quels objets d'usage courant seraient requis annuellement, et quel usage particulier cessera d'être requis. Je pense que s'il vous arrivait de voir l'entrepôt, vous seriez surpris de constater le fait que c'est assez bien contrôlé. Je doute fort qu'il y ait du côté civil des surplus exagérés d'un produit qui n'est plus demandé, mais je ne sais si M. Hunter est

[*Texte*]

any what I would call shameful surpluses of something that is no longer in use. But I do not know if Mr. Hunter has any specific knowledge on the particular Item, without checking it.

Mr. Hunter: I would have to check, Mr. Minister.

Mr. Cafik: It is the general principle that I was concerned about as opposed to that. We can deal with that in our other Committee.

Thank you very much, Mr. Minister.

The Chairman: Mr. Cullen.

Mr. Cullen: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I have just a few questions.

I too would like to compliment the Minister. I finally understand the Department much more clearly than I have in the past. Although I was in the House I must have been listening with only one ear, sir.

One thing that does concern me is your Department being the sole purchasing agent and then the fact that you have indicated that in specific areas of competence this responsibility will be farmed out. I too am on the Public Accounts Committee.

In endeavouring eventually to pin down the responsibility on someone for making a purchase for, say, $1 million and we end up selling it for $33,000, is your Department going to make itself specifically responsible for purchasing a particular piece of merchandise so that if something like this occurs we will know that we go to your Department?

Mr. Jamieson: This is, again, a policy matter and perhaps the best thing that I could do is refer you to Glassco on this, in which he said in fact that individual departments ought to have responsibility for their own actions. This means in a sense that these departments are clients of ours. Again, if I can from my own background use a business analogy, we are not established in the first instance to tell departments whether they can or cannot have a particular item or a commodity or a quantity of a particular item; our job is to get that for them at the best price and the greatest possible saving to the Canadian government. But the responsibility for the decision whether or not to purchase that item rests with the Department and within a fairly rigid framework also the responsibility to determine what kind of item they buy. In other words, if for example you were, as I hope you will be one of these days, the Minister of a particular Department, shall we say—

[*Interprétation*]

particulièrement au courant de ce poste en particulier sans avoir besoin de vérifier.

M. Hunter: Je pense qu'il me faudra vérifier, monsieur le Ministre.

M. Cafik: C'est le principe général qui me préoccupait, par opposition à cela. Nous nous en occuperons à l'autre Comité. Je vous remercie beaucoup, monsieur le Ministre.

Le président: Monsieur Cullen.

M. Cullen: Merci, monsieur le président. J'ai seulement quelques questions et moi aussi je voudrais féliciter le ministre. Enfin, je comprends le ministère beaucoup mieux qu'avant. Je dois dire que j'étais à la Chambre, mais je devais écouter d'une seule oreille monsieur.

Il y a une chose qui m'étonne, et c'est le fait que votre ministère soit le seul acheteur et que vous avez mentionné que dans certains secteurs de compétence, cette responsabilité sera confiée à d'autres. Je suis aussi membre du Comité des comptes publics.

En essayant éventuellement d'imputer à quelqu'un la responsabilité de faire un achat pour la somme, disons, d'un million de dollars et que nous finissons par vendre à $33,000, votre ministère se portera-t-il personnellement et particulièrement responsable de l'achat de certaines marchandises, de sorte que si un cas comme celui-ci se présente, nous saurons que c'est à votre ministère que nous devons nous adresser.

M. Jamieson: C'est encore une question de politique et je suppose que la meilleure chose que je puisse faire, c'est de vous référer au rapport Glassco, qui dit en fait que chaque ministère devrait être responsable de ses propres actes. En un certain sens, ça veut dire que ces ministères sont nos clients. Une fois de plus, si je peux me permettre d'employer une analogie qui m'est propre, nous ne sommes pas ici pour dire aux ministères s'ils peuvent ou s'ils ne peuvent pas avoir telle marchandise, telle qualité ou telle quantité. Notre travail consiste à leur obtenir ces produits, ces marchandises au meilleur prix et dans le meilleur intérêt du gouvernement canadien. Mais la responsabilité de la décision, à savoir si oui ou non il faut acheter l'article, incombe au ministère lui-même, et en même temps la responsabilité de décider quel genre d'article ils achètent. Autrement dit supposons que vous obteniez un jour un certain portefeuille, je suis sûr que ça vous arrivera.

[*Text*]

Mr. Cullen: We share that wish.

Mr. Jamieson: Yes. I am obviously off on the right foot. But if you came to me, for instance, and said, "I want to buy a particular item, it is within my estimates and it is part of my responsibility," it would not be my position to tell you you could not have it. However, what we could do, and we have a very good liaison with other Departments in this regard, is point out to you that the proposed purchase that you were going to make was not the most economical, that in fact you could do it in another way or you could buy another brand or another type of equipment that might be more suitable and less expensive—and of course, as a responsible minister, you would welcome this kind of suggestion. So it is this liaison and, if you like, the mutual cooperation between departments that really determines, I suggest, the answer to your question, but in the long run it is the purchasing department that has to decide whether or not, before your Committee or the Public Accounts Committee, what they purchased was justified.

Mr. Cullen: I am somewhat concerned about this common usage business as well. I am concerned with what I would call monumental goofs. Instead of each individual department saying they need ten typewriters, or seven, or five, they order a whole series of them and all of a sudden there is a defect in

• 1735

two or three of them and they have to spend a fortune. Will there be some kind of a control on this sort of thing, and is your Department going to accept the responsibility if this kind of defect appears.

Mr. Jamieson: I would say the answer has to be yes, of course. If we are purchasing common usage items which are not in fact on the direct request of a particular department at a particular time, then we must be very careful to ensure that the kind of monumental goofs that you referred to do not happen.

To do this we have a standards branch, if one wants to describe it as that, a group who determines just what are acceptable standards and the kinds of equipment, or paper, for that matter—there is something like 15 or 20 thousand items in all—that will be acceptable to us. We have very rigid tests of this and I think that you would find that to the extent that we have this common usage item in effect that the results have been good. We have, for example, established a central servicing section within the materiel management end of the Department, so that to a degree at least we are doing some of the

[*Interpretation*]

M. Cullen: Nous partageons ce souhait.

M. Jamieson: Oui, de toute évidence j'ai commencé du bon pied. Mais si vous veniez me voir pour me dire que vous voulez acheter un article donné, que cet achat ne dérangera pas votre budget, et que vous en êtes responsable, ce ne serait pas à moi de vous le refuser. Cependant, ce que nous pourrions faire, grâce à un excellent service de liaison avec les autres ministères, c'est de vous dire que l'achat que vous vous proposiez de faire n'était pas le plus économique, qu'en fait vous pourriez procéder autrement, ou acheter une autre marque ou un autre genre d'équipement qui serait plus approprié, et moins coûteux, et évidemment en votre qualité de ministre responsable, vous seriez très heureux d'avoir ce genre de suggestion. Ainsi c'est ce service de liaison, et si vous voulez, la collaboration mutuelle entre les ministères qui m'amène vraiment à la réponse à votre question, mais à long terme c'est le ministère qui achète qui doit démontrer devant votre comité et celui des comptes publics si oui ou non son achat est justifié.

M. Cullen: Cette affaire d'usage commun m'inquiète quelque peu. Je m'inquiète aussi de ce que j'appellerais des erreurs monumentales. Au lieu d'entendre des ministères dire avoir besoin de dix machines à écrire, ou sept ou cinq, ils en commandent tout un lot, et si par hasard, on constate une ou deux machines défectueuses, ils dépensent une fortune pour les réparer. Y aura-t-il jamais un certain genre de contrôle, et votre Ministère acceptera-t-il la responsabilité de ce genre de défaut?

M. Jamieson: Je dirai que la réponse va être oui, évidemment. Si nous achetons des appareils d'usage courant qui ne sont pas achetés à la demande spécifique d'un ministère à un moment donné, il faut que nous fassions très attention et veiller à ce que les gaffes monumentales dont vous parlez ne se produisent pas.

En fait, nous avons une division des normes, si vous voulez l'appeler ainsi, qui décide quelles sont les normes acceptables, et quel genre d'équipement ou de papier, par exemple, il y a environ 15,000 à 20,000 articles en tout que nous jugeons acceptables. Nous avons des tests très stricts à ce sujet et vous trouverez qu'aussi longtemps que cette question d'article d'usage courant a été en vigueur, les résultats ont été bons. Nous avons, par exemple, mis sur pied une section centrale de service au sein de l'administration du matériel du Ministère, de sorte que, dans une certaine mesure nous effectuons nous-mêmes nos propres tra-

[*Texte*]

repair work ourselves and also we are controlling and centralizing the farming out of that kind of a repair activity as well.

So that on balance the result has been to eliminate the kind of monumental goofs that might go on if every secretary in Ottawa was free to determine the kind of typewriter that she wanted—and this is what we are trying to eliminate.

Mr. Cullen: Your comment on my becoming a Cabinet Minister threw me off the area that I wanted to pursue last time and I think you can understand the reason for that.

One of the problems we seem to have on the Public Accounts Committee is to try to pin something down and to assume an area of responsibility. Suppose a Minister comes to your Department and says that he wants a specific thing and you point out to him that this is not up to standard and is not of the right quality, will this kind of communication be put in writing so that the Minister will have to accept that responsibility? Suppose you say, "I appreciate everything you told me but I still think a certain kind of machine is the best and will do the job." Is that kind of interchange of ideas privileged communication or is that something that we will be able to get at in future?

Mr. Jamieson: I cannot speak for the past so perhaps I had better defer to Mr. Hunter on what our attitude has been with regard to inter-departmental correspondence of that kind.

Mr. Hunter: Mr. Cullen, as far as the purchase or the calling of tenders for any item is concerned, if we recommend, having called tenders or having passed judgment, that a certain item is the one that we believe is the best buy for that money, that it is the lowest tender and meets all specifications, and the Department for any reason does not want it, we had an arrangement with National Defence, who is our big customer, that a letter from the Deputy Minister be written to us to explain why they disagreed with our judgment. In other words, no one person far down the line could decide that he wanted one type of equipment that was more expensive perhaps when there was another one which met all the specifications. This is not privileged information by any means. It would be in our files.

Mr. Cullen: And that would be available to Public Accounts?

[*Interprétation*]

vaux de réparation et d'autre part nous contrôlons et centralisons les travaux de réparations que nous confions à d'autres entreprises.

De sorte que nous avons éliminé la possibilité de commettre indéfiniment des gaffes monumentales si chaque secrétaire à Ottawa était libre de décider quelle machine à écrire elle voulait utiliser, et c'est ce que nous voulons éliminer.

M. Cullen: Votre observation que je deviendrais un jour membre du cabinet m'a fait perdre le fil de mes idées et vous pouvez comprendre pourquoi.

Une des difficultés que le Comité des comptes publics semble éprouver est celle d'essayer de découvrir une erreur et de voir qui en est responsable. Supposons qu'un ministre vienne vous voir et vous dise qu'il a besoin d'un certain article et vous lui expliquez que cet article n'est pas conforme aux normes et qu'il est de qualité inférieure, allez-vous lui donner cette explication par écrit pour que le ministre accepte la responsabilité?

Supposons que vous disiez: «Je vous suis reconnaissant pour tout ce que vous m'avez dit, mais je crois quand même qu'un certain genre d'équipement est de meilleure qualité et donnera un bon rendement.» Ces échanges d'idées sont-ils considérés comme étant des renseignements confidentiels, ou s'agit-il là de quelque chose dont nous pourrons discuter plus tard?

M. Jamieson: Je ne peux pas parler au passé, donc je voudrais peut-être laisser M. Hunter vous dire quelle était notre attitude vis-à-vis d'une correspondance interministérielle du genre.

M. Hunter: Monsieur Cullen, pour ce qui est de l'achat ou des appels d'offres pour des articles quelconques, si nous recommandons, après appel d'offres ou après avoir pris une décision, qu'un certain article est celui qui, à notre avis, est le meilleur achat, qu'il constitue la meilleure offre faite et est conforme aux normes exigées, et que le Ministère, pour une raison quelconque n'accepte pas notre avis, nous avons une entente avec la Défense nationale qui est notre gros client, à l'effet qu'une lettre du sous-ministre doit être écrite pour nous exliquer pourquoi on n'était pas d'accord avec notre jugement. Autrement dit, il n'y a pas une seule personne dans toute la hiérarchie qui peut décider vouloir avoir un certain article plus coûteux que celui que nous offrons lequel répond à toutes les exigences. Ces renseignements sont certainement à votre disposition.

M. Cullen: Les Comptes publics l'auraient à leur disposition aussi?

[*Text*]

Mr. Hunter: It would be available.

Mr. Cullen: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Le président: Monsieur Dumont.

M. Dumont: Merci, monsieur le président. J'ai une question à poser au sujet d'un point à la page 384. Si le ministre entend bien la traduction, j'aimerais qu'il me donne son avis. Je remarque en bas:

Services professionnels et spéciaux
cette année
$135,000
l'année dernière
$122,900

donc, une augmentation de près de $13,000. Je remarque, dans différents ministères, une tendance généralisée à employer des gens à temps partiel, des conseillers. Je donne un exemple: supposons qu'on engage un avocat à temps partiel, à tel salaire horaire. J'ai remarqué que des gens avaient été payés dans certains ministères jusqu'à $42,000, et je vois là qu'il y a une augmentation de $13,000.

Je pose deux questions: n'y a-t-il pas un certain abus dans l'embauche des gens à temps partiel, parce qu'enfin il n'y a pas de nomination, on confie seulement à quelqu'un le soin d'étudier quelque chose? Duxièmement, n'y a-t-il pas un danger que ces augmentations de dépenses soient données comme récompenses politiques? Je ne dis pas que cela existe, je demande s'il n'y a pas danger.

Le président: Je ne peux pas vous répondre. Je vais laisser ce soin au ministre.

Mr. Jamieson: Perhaps Mr. Balls would first like to explain what in his section of the Department that represents.

The Chairman: The exact definition of the term.

Mr. Jamieson: Yes.

The Chairman: That would be helpful.

Mr. Balls: Mr. Chairman, if I may, I would preface my remarks by adding one additional piece of information to what the Minister has told you.

There are two sides to the Department—a services component and a supply component. To service those two components is a common or joint administrative service to provide all the administrative and personnel services that are needed for the two operative ends of the Department.

This particular vote, Vote 1—General Administration, covers the joint administra-

[*Interpretation*]

M. Hunter: Ils seront disponibles.

M. Cullen: Merci, monsieur le président.

The Chairman: Mr. Dumont.

Mr. Dumont: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I have a question to ask concerning an item on Page 384. If the Minister understands the translation, I would like to know what he thinks of it. I notice at the bottom of the page:

Professional and Special Services
this year
$135,000
last year
$122,900

thus, an increase of about $13,000. I see that in various Departments there is a general tendency to use part-time employees, and advisers. I will give an example. Let us say a lawyer is hired on a part-time basis, at a given hourly rate. I noticed that some people have been paid up to $42,000 in some Departments, and here I see that there is an increase of $13,000.

I would like to ask two questions. Is there not a certain amount of abuse in this hiring of people on a part-time basis, because there is no appointment, and these people are only entrusted with the study of some matter? Secondly, is there no danger that these increases in expenditures are given as political rewards? I am not saying that this exists. I am asking whether this danger exists.

The Chairman: I cannot answer you. I shall leave this up to the Minister.

M. Jamieson: Je me demande si M. Balls voudrait bien nous expliquer ce que cela représente dans sa section du ministère.

Le président: La définition exacte du terme.

M. Jamieson: Oui.

Le président: Ce serait utile.

M. Balls: Monsieur le président, si vous me le permettez, je commencerai mon exposé en ajoutant quelques renseignements à ceux que le Ministre vous adonnés.

Il y a deux côtés. Il y a l'élément «service», et l'élément «fournitures». Pour desservir ces deux éléments, un service d'administration commun assure tous les services administratifs et du personnel requis pour les deux secteurs d'activité du ministère.

Le crédit nº 1, Administration générale, vise les coûts d'administration des deux servi-

[*Texte*]

tion costs of this joint service. I think I am correct that Mr. Hunter has the details in regard to this area of it. I do not think it is available in my notes.

The Chairman: Perhaps you could give an exact definition of the term used there because we have found at times that the terms might be confusing.

Mr. Jamieson: In the explanation given, the amount and the item to which you refer is for training of public servants and special services and it is an increase of, as you say, $12,100. The explanation is that in keeping with the re-organization of the Department it will be necessary to provide both in-training and out-training tuition to improve the skills of the 634 people in their new responsibilities.

In other words, I do not believe that it relates directly to the question that you raised about the hiring of outside consultants or legal people or anything of that kind. We have 634 people who have new and different responsibilities as a result of the amalgamation, and consequently there is the need both to retrain them in their new functions and new positions in the Department and to have people from outside to assist in that retraining.

This amount is voted to cover that particular expenditure.

M. Dumont: J'ai une question supplémentaire. Faut-il dire alors qu'aucun des employés, que vous avez comme conseillers, n'est payé à l'heure dans le ministère en question?

Mr. Jamieson: I am sorry. Forgive me, I was reading a note.

M. Dumont: Est-ce dire que dans le ministère, aucun des employés, que vous avez comme conseillers, n'est payé à l'heure?

Mr. Jamieson: We would probably have—Mr. Hunter might well confirm this—some consultants in a specialized field but only if the expenditure was on a specific program. In other words, if there was a special job to be done and we only required someone for a relatively short time, it would be more economical to engage someone to do that work rather than to put someone on permanent staff whom we would have to maintain long after the particular requirement had passed. But to my knowledge our Department does not do a great deal of hiring of outside consultants on a per occasion basis. There is not a substantial amount. Would Mr. Balls be prepared to confirm that?

[*Interprétation*]

ces. Je crois ne pas me tromper en disant que monsieur Hunter est au courant des détails de ce secteur. Je pense que je n'ai rien à ce sujet dans mes notes.

Le président: Vous pourriez peut-être donner une définition exacte du terme employé ici, parce que nous nous sommes aperçus que les termes portaient parfois à confusion.

M. Jamieson: Dans l'explication ici, la somme et le poste dont vous parlez, visent la formation de fonctionnaires et d'employés des services spéciaux et représente une augmentation de $12,100. Pour réorganiser le ministère, il faudra fournir des cours de formation à l'intérieur et à l'extérieur pour préparer 634 personnes à leurs nouvelles fonctions.

Autrement dit, je ne pense pas que ce soit directement lié à la question que vous avez posée au sujet des conseillers extérieurs ou des gens qui sont dans les professions juridiques ou autres. Nous avons 634 personnes qui ont de nouvelles responsabilités à la suite de l'amalgamation. Il faut donc les rééduquer dans leurs nouvelles fonctions au sein du ministère et aussi pour les gens de l'extérieur, les aider dans leur rééducation.

Le crédit est donc voté pour ces dépenses.

Mr. Dumont: A supplementary question. Does this mean that there is not one employee employed hourly as a consultant for that Department?

M. Jamieson: Pardonnez-moi, je lisais une note.

Mr. Dumont: Does this mean that in the Department, none of the employees who are hired as consultants, are paid by the hour?

M. Jamieson: M. Hunter peut très bien le confirmer. Je pense que nous avons probablement des conseillers dans des domaines spécliaisés mais seulement si les dépenses sont faites pour un programme donné. Par exemple, s'il y a un travail spécial à faire et qu'on a besoin de quelqu'un pour une période de temps assez courte. Ce serait plus économique d'engager les services de quelqu'un pour faire ce travail au lieu d'utiliser un membre à plein temps du personnel, qu'il nous faudrait garder longtemps après qu'on en aurait eu besoin. A ma connaissance, notre ministère n'engage pas beaucoup de conseillers de l'extérieur pour chaque fois. Il n'y en a pas suffisamment.

[*Text*]

Mr. Balls: This is so, Mr. Chairman. I should add that there are some instances in connection with the services program where we do contract with consultants. This is primarily in connection with the Bureau of Management Consulting Services, the in-house consulting service that we are providing on behalf of all government departments. There have been occasions when a department has asked us to undertake a study for it and we have found that we have not had on our own staff the full range of expertise necessary to perform a full-scale satisfactory study.

Under these circumstances, we have on occasion found it necessary to enter into a contract with an outside consultant who has acted as a member of our management consulting team.

M. Dumont: Merci.

Le président: Monsieur Mather?

Mr. Mather: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I

• 1745

just have two or three questions. Like other members I appreciated the statement of the Minister on the far-ranging and yet very detailed functions of this new department of government, the Department of Supply and Services. I think I am right in believing that part of the inspiration for its coming into existence stems from the Glassco Commission's report which was, as we recall, aimed at making economies in the Public Service through the co-ordination or pooling of the purchasing and servicing of various departments.

The Minister has suggested that already some economies or improved efficiencies have been made even in the short time that this Department has been functioning. We know that it is very early yet to ask such a question, and it is a pretty general question, but can the Minister indicate that he feels that in the foreseeable future there will be further major savings in the elimination of duplication which may exist in some departments or some functions of government through the operation of his Department?

Mr. Jamieson: Yes, sir, I can answer that with an unequivocal yes. I am satisfied that there are very significant savings. What they would be in relation to the total expenditures of government it is rather difficult to say, but assuming a figure of a billion dollars plus in terms of the responsibilities that we might

[*Interpretation*]

Est-ce que monsieur Balls peut confirmer ce que j'ai dit?

M. Balls: Monsieur le président oui, je voudrais ajouter qu'il y a certains cas relatifs aux services où nous passons un contrat avec des conseillers. Naturellement, ceci est en étroite collaboration avec le Bureau des services de consultation administrative, le service de consultation interne que nous offrons au nom de tous les ministères. Il y a eu des occasions où un ministère nous a demandé d'entreprendre une enquête, pour lui et nous nous sommes aperçus que nous n'avions pas, parmi notre personnel, toute la compétence nécessaire pour fournir une étude circonstanciée satisfaisante.

Dans ce cas-là, nous avons jugé parfois nécessaire d'entrer en relation avec des conseillers de l'extérieur qui ont agi à titre de membres de notre équipe de consultation administrative.

Mr. Dumont: Thank you.

The Chairman: Mr. Mather?

M. Mather: Merci, monsieur le président. Je n'ai que quelques questions à poser.

Comme d'autres députés, j'ai beaucoup apprécié la déclaration que le Ministre a faite expliquant les fonctions très vastes de ce nouveau ministère, les Approvisionnements et Services. Je pense que j'ai raison de croire qu'une partie de l'idée de sa création se trouve dans le rapport de la Commission Glassco, qui visait à étudier les moyens d'économiser dans la Fonction publique par la coordination ou la mise en commun des achats et de l'entretien des différents ministères.

Le ministre a déclaré qu'on a déjà réalisé quelques économies et qu'on accuse un rendement amélioré, même depuis le peu de temps que ce ministère est mis sur pied. Nous savons qu'il est très tôt pour poser une question comme celle-ci est aussi générale, mais est-ce que le Ministre veut dire que d'après lui, dans un avenir prévisible, il y aura d'autres épargnes importantes pour éviter le double emploi qui peut exister dans certains ministères ou pour certaines fonctions grâce aux activités de son ministère?

M. Jamieson: Oui, je peux répondre «oui» sans équivoque. Il y a des épargnes très importantes. Il est assez difficile de dire ce qu'elles seraient par rapport aux dépenses totales du gouvernement. Mais je pense que le chiffre d'un milliard de dollars plus, pour les fonctions que nous pourrions avoir, je

[*Texte*]

have, I think we can save several million dollars annually and, in fact, not only save it in terms of the actual saving in the cost of items purchased but also in terms of the amount which we have to retain in inventory. In a sense, anything that is on the shelf is money tied up.

May I just give you one example. The supply consolidation project to which I have referred, that is the attempt to get everything together in central warehousing, has had the effect of a decrease in inventory value of approximately $1,325,840—that is not approximate, that is pretty specific—as well as annual recurring savings in personnel, space and management of somewhere of the order of three quarters of a million dollars. So from both of those points of view I think this is illustrative of what we are trying to accomplish. I believe on our standing order arrangement for the purchasing of automobiles, for which I think the figure is somewhere between $4,000 and $5,000 annually in terms of civilian departments, a saving let us say of even 10 per cent would be very significant. If the results are not what I think they will be then obviously I will not have done a good job.

Mr. Mather: On the point about the purchase of large numbers of vehicles for the government or government services, as one member interested particularly in traffic safety and automotive safety, with the volume of purchasing that you are doing through your department, is it possible or does it exist that you can have in-plant inspection for standards of specification in regard to the quality, safety quality particularly, of the vehicles?

Mr. Jamieson: May I answer in a general way and then refer the question to Mr. Hunter for more specific detail. I would question whether we could do an in plant inspection because the way the system operates is that we do not take delivery of all of these from the manufacturing plant in order to provide a degree of choice for various agencies and also, by the way, to spread the benefits, if you will, of these purchases across the country through individual dealers. Our system works in a fashion which will enable these to be taken delivery of in British Columbia or in Alberta or in Ontario or wherever the need may be, so that we do not have a specific stamp, if you like, on a car leaving the factory to say, "This one is for the government service".

But so far as I am aware, and I have discussed this with Mr. Hunter, we have required in the specifications that those safety

[*Interprétation*]

crois que nous pouvons gagner plusieurs millions de dollars chaque année, et, en fait, non seulement les épargner en vertu de l'épargne actuelle sur les achats mais aussi pour la somme d'argent que représentent les produits qu'il faut garder pour notre inventaire. D'une certaine manière tout ce qui se trouve sur les étagères et immobilisé.

Par exemple, vous avez le projet de fusionnement des approvisionnements, c'est-à-dire un entrepôt général central. Eh bien, ceci a diminué la valeur d'inventaire d'environ $1,325,840, cela n'est pas approximatif mais spécifique, ainsi que des épargnes qui se répètent tous les ans pour le personnel, l'espace et l'administration; d'environ de l'ordre de 3/4 de million. Je pense donc que de ces deux points de vue, cela illustre bien ce que nous essayons de réaliser. Je pense que d'après notre arrangement visant l'achat d'automobiles, qui s'élève environ à $4,000 ou $5,000 par an, pour ces ministères de civils, une épargne de 10 p. 100 par exemple serait très importante. Si les résultats n'approchent pas ce que je prévois, naturellement, je n'aurai pas fait un bon travail.

M. Mather: Quant à l'achat des véhicules pour le gouvernement ou les services gouvernementaux, en tant que député particulièrement intéressé par la securité de la route et de l'automobile, je me demande si on ne pourrait pas avec tous les achats que vous faites par votre ministère, faire l'inspection en usine des normes relatives à la qualité et particulièrement la qualité de la sécurité des véhicules.

M. Jamieson: Permettez-moi de répondre de façon générale et de me référer ensuite à la question de monsieur Hunter pour y apporter plus de détails. Je ne pense pas que l'on puisse faire une inspection à l'usine, parce que notre ministère ne prend pas livraison de ses véhicules du fabricant, pour permettre de choisir différentes agences ou organismes et de répartir les bénéfices de ces achats aux commerçants individuels du pays. Nous fonctionnons de façon à ce qu'ils puissent en prendre livraison en Colombie-Britannique, en Alberta, en Ontario, ou partout où on en a besoin, de sorte que nous n'avons pas de timbre spécifique placé sur une auto pour dire que celle-ci est réservée au service du gouvernement.

Mais, autant que je sache, et j'en ai discuté avec monsieur Hunter, nous avons exigé dans les devis, que les normes de sécurité que

[*Text*]

features that we can implement, of course we do. Is this correct, Mr. Hunter?

Mr. Hunter: That is right, Mr. Minister. We sponsored several years ago the establishing of the 27, I think it was, mandatory station safety standards now handled by the Department of Transport. These are all called up on the cars that we buy for the Department of National Defence and other government departments.

Mr. Mather: So there is a standard of safety quality specifications through your Department. Is this related to—not the knowledge but the work of the Department of Transport, who are very much concerned but very much handicapped, I think, because of our constitutional problems in getting a standard of such

• 1750

safety for the public of Canada? I mean, are you in touch with each other in regard to this quality standard that your Department requires?

Mr. Hunter: The Canadian Government Specifications Board actually forms the department which the Minister spoke of in our Supply side, the Inspection Standards Branch. They actually work very closely with the Department of Transport wherever they can help them. The Department of Transport actually handles road safety, driver control and certain other features. We concentrated on the safety features that could be incorporated into the automobile itself.

Mr. Mather: Thank you. Those are my questions.

Mr. Jamieson: Mr. Mather, without breaking your train of throught, may I also draw your attention to page 385 in relation to what Mr. Balls said a few moments ago about establishing a common administrative service for these two functions within this department. You will note that the figure is down by approximately $1 million in terms of administrative costs. In other words, our estimate last year was $4,970,000 and it is now $3,990,000. Therefore by lopping off a few jobs here and there we have managed to carve about $1 million off the general administrative expenses.

Mr. Mather: That is very encouraging.

Mr. McCutcheon: If I may ask a supplementary relative to the automobile business, did I understand you to say that some of these automobiles come from dealerships.

Mr. Jamieson: Yes, sir.

[*Interpretation*]

nous pouvons faire appliquer, soient respectées. N'est-ce pas, monsieur Hunter?

M. Hunter: En effet, monsieur le Ministre. Il y a plusieurs années nous avons parrainé l'application de 27 normes obligatoires de sécurité routière, je crois, qui relèvent maintenant du ministère des Transports. Elles sont toutes requises lorsque l'on achète pour le ministère de la Défense nationale et pour d'autres ministères du gouvernement.

M. Mather: Donc, il y a une norme de sécurité dans votre ministère. Est-ce en rapport avec, non pas la connaissance, mais le travail du ministère des Transports qui s'intéresse beaucoup à la question mais qui ont certains handicaps à cause de nos problèmes constitutionnels pour obtenir une norme pour

la population canadienne? Est-ce que les deux ministères sont en relation au sujet de la norme de qualité dont votre ministère a besoin?

M. Hunter: L'office des normes du gouvernement canadien constitue la section dont le ministre a parlé sur le plan des approvisionnements, la Direction de l'inspection des normes. Ils travaillent en étroite collaboration avec le ministère des Transports quand ils peuvent les aider. Le ministère des Transports s'occupe actuellement de la sécurité routière, du contrôle des chauffeurs et d'autres questions. Nous nous concentrons sur la sécurité qui peut être apportée à l'automobile même.

M. Mather: Je vous remercie. C'est tout ce que je demandais.

M. Jamieson: Je vous signale qu'à la page 385, pour reprendre ce que disait monsieur Balls tout à l'heure, au sujet de l'établissement de services administratifs communs, pour ces deux fonctions, au sein du Ministère. Vous remarquerez que le chiffre a baissé d'environ 1 million de dollars sur le plan des coûts administratifs. L'an dernier, nos prévisions étaient de $4,970,000 maintenant, elles ont baissé à $3,990,000. Donc, nous avons épargné 1 million de dollars environ.

M. Mather: C'est encourageant.

M. McCutchueon: Question supplémentaire. Pendant que nous parlons d'automobiles, j'ai cru comprendre que vous disiez que certaines de ces automobiles venaient de commerçants.

M. Jamieson: C'est exact.

[*Texte*]

Mr. McCutcheon: Now I presume in a great percentage of the cases we have a used vehicle to dispose of. How is that done? Does that go through the dealer who supplies the new one, or does our disposal corporation sell those cars.

Mr. Jamieson: Well the same principles apply as on a normal transaction and to the extent that you wish to explore it Mr. Hunter can perhaps outline just how it does operate in detail.

Mr. Hunter: This has been handled both ways, sir. It has been a long standing practice that when National Defence bought new cars their old cars were disposed of through Crown Asset Disposal Corporation. Since we took over the buying for the other government departments we have made tests of handling them both ways. In fact we are still in the process of determining which way you actually get the best deal. We have not finally decided how we will handle all of them.

Mr. Glassford, would you care to comment?

Mr. J. S. Glassford (Assistant Deputy Minister, Purchasing, Department of Supply and Services): So far it appears that we get a better deal by a trade-in through the dealer than selling as a fleet through CADC.

Mr. McCutcheon: Does the Minister's department give instructions to the supplier that this car is needed, shall we say, in Manitoba and that the Manitoba dealer should supply the new vehicle and dispose of the old one?

Mr. Glassford: The arrangement is made through the company which then arranges with the dealer in the area that we wish the car to be supplied.

Mr. Jamieson: Does that clarify it for you? If it is the Ford Motor Co. of Canada Ltd., for example, we would notify them and they would designate a dealer presumably closest to the source of supply in Manitoba, in Nova Scotia or wherever it happened to be.

Mr. McCutcheon: Well I do not want to belabour this, but does the Ford Motor Co. say to a certain dealer, "Now here is a new car to be delivered to the Department of Agriculture and you are going to have a second-hand car to dispose of."? I presume that the dealer has to put in a bid for that second-hand car to finish off the deal. This is the old system, is it not?

[*Interprétation*]

M. McCutcheon: Maintenant, je suppose que nous avons dans bien des cas, des véhicules usagés dont nous voulons vous défaire. Comment cela se fait-il? Est-ce qu'on s'adresse au commerçant, qui fournit le nouveau véhicule, ou, est-ce que c'est la société de disposition qui dispose de ces automobiles?

M. Jamieson: C'est une transaction normale. Si vous voulez étudier la question plus à fond, M. Hunter peut vous expliquer comment nous procédons.

M. Hunter: Cela se fait des deux façons. La Défense nationale achetait les véhicules neufs et les anciens passaient par la Société de dispositon des biens de la couronne. Dans le moment, depuis que vous avons assumé les ventes pour tous les ministères, nous avons essayé de procéder des deux façons. Nous sommes encore à déterminer ce qui est préférable. Finalement, nous n'avons pas encore décidé ce que nous allons faire.

Peut-être M. Glassford pourrait-il ajouter quelque chose?

M. J. S. Glassford (Sous-ministre adjoint, Achats, ministère des Approvisionnements et Services): Jusqu'ici, le mieux est de passer par le commerçant pour faire l'échange au lieu de faire vendre tout le parc de véhicules par la S.D.B.C.

M. McCutcheon: Le ministère donne-t-il des instructions aux fournisseurs, à savoir, que tel véhicule est requis au Manitoba et qu'un commerçant du Manitoba fournira de nouveaux véhicules et disposera de l'ancien.

M. Glassford: On signe un accord avec la compagnie qui s'entend avec le commerçant dans la région où nous voulons avoir ce véhicule.

M. Jamieson: Cela vous éclaire-t-il? Si c'est la compagnie *Ford* du Canada, par exemple, nous avisons et ils désignent le plus proche vendeur du Manitoba, ou en Nouvelle-Écosse, où que ce soit.

M. McCutcheon: Je ne veux pas ambitionner la-dessus, mais est-ce que la compagnie *Ford* dit à tel commerçant qu'il y a une nouvelle auto à expédier au ministère de l'Agriculture, qui se trouve dans telle région, et qu'on va lui donner une auto déjà usagée, qu'il devra s'en débarrasser. Alors le commerçant doit faire une offre pour la vieille voiture. C'est l'ancien système, n'est-ce pas?

[*Text*]

Mr. Jamieson: No, I think it is the new system. Mr. Glassford can explain this more fully.

Mr. Glassford: This is correct. Under this system, of course, what we are interested in is the difference in bids from the major companies who have dealers in the area.

Mr. Cafik: I have a supplementary on that. Do you get a price from the Ford Motor Co. for so many cars and then do they instruct their dealers to supply them and to purchase from you the other cars, or do they simply put you in touch with the dealer from whom you ask a bid for so many cars that you are turning in?

Mr. Glassford: No, the bids come through the companies.

• 1755

Mr. Cafik: Through the manufacturer?

Mr. Glassford: Yes.

Mr. Cafik: And do they also bid on the difference between your car and what you want?

Mr. Glassford: That is correct . . .

Mr. Cafik: They do?

Mr. Glassford: . . using their dealers as the local representative to give them a bid. But the bids put in by the motor car company.

Mr. Cafik: Therefore the local dealer gives his bid to his manufacturer?

Mr. Glassford: His supplier.

Mr. Cafik: Thank you.

The Chairman: Mr. Clermont.

M. Clermont: Monsieur le président, monsieur le Ministre, votre ministère en est un récent qui est aussi de la fusion des services d'approvisionnement et de différents autres services.

Je remarque, au sujet de l'effectif constant et du personnel à temps partiel, au crédit 1, en 1968-1969—vous aviez 769 employés et, en 1969-1970—662. Au crédit 5—pour 1968-1969; 3,068; pour 1969-1970: 2,590. Au crédit 15: Services—1969-1970: 4,637; 1968-1969: 4,979. Je remarque que la diminution vient surtout du soutien administratif.

Le surplus d'employés (si je peux utiliser cette expression) où a-t-il été dirigé?

Mr. Jamieson: Both of the deputies can probably answer in specific terms as to the

[*Interpretation*]

M. Jamieson: Non, je pense que c'est le nouveau système. M. Glassford va l'expliquer.

M. Glassford: C'est vrai. Ce qui nous intéresse c'est la différence entre les offres des grandes compagnies qui ont des vendeurs dans la région.

M. Cafik: Une question supplémentaire. Est-ce que vous obtenez un prix de la compagnie pour un certain nombre de voitures, et qu'ensuite la compagnie avise ses distributeurs de vous les vendre et de reprendre les vieilles, ou bien s'ils vous mettent en rapport avec le distributeur auquel vous avez demandé l'offre?

M. Glassford: Non, les offres sont faites par l'entremise des compagnies.

M. Cafik: Du manufacturier?

M. Glassford: Oui.

M. Cafik: Est-ce qu'ils vous font des offres sur la différence entre le prix de la vieille voiture et celle que vous voulez avoir?

M. Glassford: Oui, c'est cela.

M. Cafik: Vraiment?

M. Glassford: Oui, leurs vendeurs sont les représentants locaux. Mais c'est la compagnie de fabrication qui fait l'offre.

M. Cafik: Donc le distributeur local donne son offre à son manufacturier?

M. Glassford: Son fournisseur.

M. Cafik: Merci.

Le président: Monsieur Clermont.

Mr. Clermont: Mr. Chairman. Mr. Minister, your Department is a recent one which came about by the merging of supply services and also of various other services.

I see that with respect to the permanent staff and the part-time staff, if you take Vote 1, in 1968-69, you had 769 employees, and in 1969-70, 662. Now if you take Vote 5, for 1968-69: 3,068; and for 1969-70, 2,590. And in Vote 15: Services, 1969-70: 4,637; 1968-69: 4,979. I notice that the decrease is due especially to Administration Support.

Where has the surplus of employees—if you will forgive the expression—been channelled to?

M. Jamieson: Mes deux sous-ministres peuvent probablement répondre, en ce qui con-

[*Texte*]

size of their department. Generally speaking there was a degree of absorption, but I think that it is fair to say too that there are a number still who have not been permanently reassigned. Mr. Balls, who had the larger number of what one might wish to describe as displaced persons, can perhaps outline this for you.

Mr. Balls: Mr. Chairman, may I say, first of all, that in a department with a large staff there is inevitably a very large attrition during the course of a year. In the experience of the office of the Comptroller of the Treasury, the predecessor of our services component with the department, this approximated about 600 persons a year leaving the department for various reasons; resignations ill-health, going to new positions—the whole gamut of the causes for people to give up their positions. So there is a fair amount of ability required in this normal process of attrition to accommodate yourself to reduction in the numbers of staff required.

However, as the Minister has mentioned, we have not by any means completed the process with respect to the services component. One of the essential features of the establishment of the new department is that certain functions which were formerly vested in the Comptroller of the Treasury will be transferred to departments. I refer particularly to the responsibility that the Comptroller had for pre-audit and commitment control. Under the amendments to the Financial Administration Act that were passed by Parliament last March and which came into effect on April 1, 1969, the departments will be responsible fully for the pre-audit of all expenditures and for the maintenance of commitment control records. This however has not been completely effective as yet.

• 1800

I have been asked, as Deputy Minister of Services, by the Treasury Board to carry on the pre-audit and the commitment control function until the task force which is now at work examining the positions in respect of each department can report and we can make the necessary arrangements for the transfer of these functions.

Therefore there is still a considerable amount to do in respect of the transfer of some employees who will be surplus to our requirements eventually.

M. Clermont: Mais dans l'intervalle, monsieur le président, le salaire du personnel en surplus, est-il compris dans vos prévisions budgétaires pour 1969-1970?

[*Interprétation*]

cerne la grosseur de leur ministère. Je pense qu'il y a une certaine part d'absorption, mais je pense que ces chiffres disent aussi qu'il y en a un certain nombre qui n'ont pas été réaffectés à d'autres fonctions. M. Balls peut-être, qui a le plus grand nombre de «personnes déplacées», si on peut employer l'expression, pourrait peut-être vous répondre.

M. Balls: Oui, monsieur le président. D'abord, laissez-moi vous dire que dans un ministère où il y a un gros personnel, il y a inévitablement beaucoup de changements pendant l'année. Selon l'expérience du Bureau du Conseil du Trésor, à peu près 600 personnes par année ont laissé le ministère pour différentes raisons: démissions, mauvaise santé, nouvelle position, enfin tout l'éventail des raisons qui font que les gens abandonnent un travail. Ca veut dire qu'il faut une certaine aptitude pour s'habituer à une réduction du personnel.

Je crois que le ministre l'a dit, nous n'avons pas terminé le processus du côté des services. Un des traits essentiels de l'établissement du nouveau ministère, c'est que certaines fonctions qui revenaient au Contrôleur du Trésor, vont être transférées à des ministères. Je parle surtout de la responsabilité du Contrôleur général en ce qui concerne la comptabilité préalable et le maintien des dossiers de dépenses. Aux termes de la *Loi sur l'administration financière* qui a été adoptée par le Parlement en mars dernier et est entrée en vigueur le 1er avril 1969, les ministères sont entièrement responsables de la comptabilité préalable de toutes les dépenses prévues et des dossiers d'engagements. Mais ceci n'a pas été terminé entièrement jusqu'ici.

Vu que je suis sous-ministre des Services, le Conseil du Trésor m'a demandé de continuer à faire la pré-vérification et le contrôle des engagements jusqu'à ce que l'équipe spéciale étudie la position de tous les ministères et pour faire des rapports afin qu'on fasse le transfert nécessaire des différentes fonctions.

Il y a encore pas mal de travail à faire du côté du transfert de certains employés qui seront éventuellement de trop.

Mr. Clermont: But in the meantime, Mr. Chairman, are the salaries and wages of the surplus personnel included in your Estimates for 1969-70?

[*Text*]

Mr. Jamieson: For 1969-70?

Mr. Clermont: Yes. According to Mr. Balls, there is still a surplus of personnel in that department. Do your estimates for 1969-70 take care of that surplus of personnel?

Mr. Balls: Mr. Chairman, I did not say that we had a surplus of personnel. I said I would anticipate that eventually we would have a surplus when the functions which we are now carrying on by arrangements with the Treasury Board are transferred to departments.

In fact, however, the estimates do anticipate and have made some reductions in anticipating that this transfer would be effective from April 1, which has not in fact happened.

M. Clermont: Ma dernière question, monsieur le président, a trait au crédit 5, à la page 385. Au poste «Services professionnels et spéciaux», je remarque que les prévisions pour 1968-1969 étaient de $999,900. et pour 1969-1970 de $600,000. seulement.

Mr. Jamieson: Is it not the case that it is a reduction in the current year, Mr. Clermont?

Mr. Cafik: Yes, that is right.

Mr. Clermont: I wanted to show that in Vote 1 there was an increase of $13,000 but in Vote 5 there was a decrease of nearly $400,000.

Mr. Jamieson: Yes, that is correct, sir.

Mr. Clermont: That was the reason for my question, Mr. Minister.

The Chairman: Mr. Thomson.

Mr. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): In buying military hardware, do you have other considerations, such as "buy Canadian", "buy U.S.", "buy British", "buy NATO", in addition to cheaper efficiency in purchasing? Are there any other considerations?

Mr. Jamieson: I think the number one requirement throughout, all other things being equal, is "buy Canadian", and that is true of the civilian departments, of course, primarily. Insofar as military requirements are concerned, we have, of course, the production-sharing arrangement with the United States which accounts for a very considerable amount and which has resulted in a very gratifying, to us at least, development of Canadian industry in the defence-oriented field. I do not know if you are aware of precisely how the production-sharing agree-

[*Interpretation*]

M. Jamieson: Pour 1969-1970?

M. Clermont: Oui, il y a toujours un surplus de personnel dans ce ministère, selon M. Balls. Pour 1969-1970, vous tenez toujours compte de ce surplus de personnel?

M. Balls: Monsieur le président, je n'ai pas dit qu'il y avait un surplus de personnel. J'ai dit qu'on s'attendait à cela éventuellement, lorsque les fonctions que nous remplissons dans le moment, grâce à une entente avec le Conseil du Trésor, seront transférées aux ministères.

En fait, cependant, les prévisions tiennent compte de cela et nous faisons certaines réductions, espérant que ce transfert sera fait à partir du 1er avril, mais ce n'est pas ce qui s'est produit.

Mr. Clermont: My last question, Mr. Chairman, deals with Vote 5, on page 385. For the item Professional and Special Services, I see that the 1968-69 estimates were $999,900, and for 1969-70, they were only $600,000.

M. Jamieson: N'est-ce pas une réduction, cette année?

M. Cafik: Oui, c'est vrai.

M. Clermont: Je voulais montrer qu'il y avait peut-être une augmentation de $23,000 dans le crédit 1 et qu'il y avait une diminution de $400,000 dans le crédit 5.

M. Jamieson: C'est juste, monsieur Clermont.

M. Clermont: C'est pour cela que je posais la question, monsieur le ministre.

Le président: Monsieur Thomson.

M. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Monsieur le président, au sujet de l'achat du matériel militaire, songez-vous à acheter de l'équipement canadien, américain, britannique ou de l'OTAN? Sans oublier que l'efficacité des achats coûte moins cher. Y a-t-il d'autres considérations?

M. Jamieson: La première exigence, toute choses étant égales, est d'acheter du matériel canadien, c'est vrai aussi du côté civil. Pour ce qui est du matériel militaire, nous avons des ententes de production avec les États-Unis qui représentent une forte somme; c'est très encourageant pour l'industrie canadienne dans le domaine de la défense. Je ne sais pas si vous savez comment se font ces ententes avec les États-Unis; il s'agit d'une entente visant à l'égalisation, pour que tout ce que nous achetons hors du pays nous soit profitable.

[*Texte*]

ment works, but it is an offset kind of arrangement, so that with anything we buy outside the country—and I am oversimplifying here—there is an offsetting benefit in value to us.

Mr. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Is there any agreement between the NATO nations to buy from each other in this sense?

Mr. Jamieson: To some extent, and perhaps Mr. Hunter would be able to answer you on this.

Mr. Hunter: There are general arrangements, sir, under which NATO countries get together and arrange to develop and purchase from each other certain items that one country may have taken a leadership in developing. It is not a hard-and-fast rule, but there are arrangements that are worked out in the NATO armament committees which meet regularly. We are working on one of them with the reconnaissance drone, as you may recall. We are doing the development. The United Kingdom, West Germany and Canada are all paid the development cost, and they are buying from us.

Mr. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Thank you.

The Chairman: Mr. Ricard.

Mr. Ricard: I just wanted to mention that it is past six o'clock.

The Chairman: We are aware of that. It is past six o'clock.

Items 1, 5, 15, and 20 agreed to.

The Chairman: We wish to thank you very much, Mr. Minister and gentlemen.

We will adjourn the meeting and next time we will hear Canadian Arsenals Limited and the Canadian Commercial Corporation.

[*Interprétation*]

M. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Y a-t-il des ententes de cette sorte entre les pays de l'OTAN, pour des achats entre ces pays?

M. Jamieson: Dans une certaine mesure; peut-être que M. Hunter pourrait répondre?

M. Hunter: Il y a des ententes générales qui permettent aux pays de l'OTAN d'acheter du matériel les uns des autres, par exemple, si un pays est supérieur dans un domaine. Ce n'est pas une règle rigide, mais les pays qui participent aux réunions sur les armes au sein de l'OTAN font certaines ententes. Nous coopérons avec ces pays pour la mise au point de l'avion de reconnaissance, si vous vous souvenez. C'est le Canada qui met au point l'engin, et le Royaume-Uni, l'Allemagne de l'Ouest et le Canada contribuent au coût, et ces pays achètent l'engin de nous.

M. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Merci.

Le président: Monsieur Ricard.

M. Ricard: Je voulais tout simplement vous dire qu'il était plus que six heures.

Le président: Nous le savons.

Les crédits 1, 5, 15 et 20 sont adoptés.

Le président: Merci beaucoup, monsieur le ministre.

Nous allons ajourner. La prochaine fois, nous entendrons la *Canadian Arsenals Limited,* et la *Canadian Commercial Corporation.*

OFFICIAL BILINGUAL ISSUE
HOUSE OF COMMONS

First Session
Twenty-eighth Parliament, 1968-69

FASCICULE BILINGUE OFFICIEL
CHAMBRE DES COMMUNES

Première session de la
vingt-huitième législature, 1968-1969

STANDING COMMITTEE
ON

MISCELLANEOUS ESTIMATES

COMITÉ PERMANENT
DES

PRÉVISIONS BUDGÉTAIRES EN GÉNÉRAL

Chairman M. Fernand E. Leblanc *Président*

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS
AND EVIDENCE

PROCÈS-VERBAUX ET
TÉMOIGNAGES

No. 17

THURSDAY, APRIL 24, 1969

LE JEUDI 24 AVRIL 1969

Respecting

The items listed in the Main Estimates 1969-70, relating to the National Research Council.

Concernant

Les postes énumérés au budget principal de 1969-1970, concernant le Conseil national de recherches.

WITNESSES—TÉMOINS

(*See Minutes of Proceedings*) (*Voir Procès-verbaux*)

The Queen's Printer, Ottawa, 1969
L'Imprimeur de la Reine, Ottawa, 1969

20163—1

STANDING COMMITTEE
ON
MISCELLANEOUS ESTIMATES

COMITÉ PERMANENT
DES
PRÉVISIONS BUDGÉTAIRES
EN GÉNÉRAL

Chairman — M. Fernand-E. Leblanc — *Président*
Vice-Chairman — Mr. Jack Cullen — *Vice-président*

and Messrs. — et MM.

Alkenbrack,
Cafik,
Clermont,
Dumont,
Goode,
Gundlock,
LeBlanc (*Rimouski*),
Mather,
Marchand (*Kamloops Cariboo*),
McCutcheon,
Noël,
Paproski,
Peddle,[32]
Penner,
Ricard,
Robinson,
Thomson (*Battleford-Kindersley*)—(20).

Le secrétaire du Comité,

D. E. Levesque,

Clerk of the Committee.

Pursuant to S.O. 65(4)(*b*)

[32] Replaced Mr. Dinsdale on April 24, 1969.

Conformément à l'article 65(4)(*b*) du Règlement

[32] Remplace M. Dinsdale le 24 avril 1969.

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

[*Text*]

THURSDAY, April 24, 1969.
(18)

The Standing Committee on Miscellaneous Estimates met this day at 4:00 p.m. The Chairman, Mr. Fernand E. Leblanc, presiding.

Members present: Messrs. Leblanc (*Laurier*), Mather, McCutcheon, Noël, Penner, Thomson (*Battleford-Kindersley*)—(6).

Witnesses: From the National Research Council: Dr. W. G. Schneider, President; Dr. K. F. Tupper, Vice-President; Dr. W. H. Cook, Executive Director and Director of Biosciences Division; Dr. J. L. Osberg, Chief Financial Adviser.

The Chairman called the Estimates 1969-70 relating to the National Research Council and introduced the witnesses.

On Item 15, Administration, Operation and Maintenance, Dr. Schneider made a statement and assisted by Dr. Tupper and Cook, answered questions.

After discussion, Items 15, 20, 25 and 30, were allowed to stand.

It was *agreed,* that the answer to Mr. McCutcheon's question asked at our previous meeting of Mr. de Salaberry, be appended to this day's evidence. (*See Appendix "C"*)

Also the Tables entitled "Support of Research at Universities 1968-69". (*See Appendix "D"*)

The Committee *agreed* that the witnesses be not recalled for further questioning.

At 5:30 p.m., the Committee adjourned to Tuesday, April 29, 1969.

D. E. Levesque,
Clerk of the Committee.

PROCÈS-VERBAL

[*Traduction*]

Le JEUDI 24 avril 1969.
(18)

Le Comité permanent des prévisions budgétaires en général se réunit cet après-midi à 4 h., sous la présidence de M. Fernand Leblanc.

Présents: MM. Leblanc (*Laurier*), Mather, McCutcheon, Noël, Penner, Thomson (*Battleford-Kindersley*)—(6).

Témoins: Du Conseil national de recherches: M. W. G. Schneider, président; M. K. F. Tupper, vice-président; M. W. H. Cook, directeur exécutif et directeur de la Division des sciences biologiques; M. J. L. Osberg, conseil financier principal.

Le président met en délibération les prévisions budgétaires de 1969-1970 relatives au Conseil national de recherches, et il présente les témoins.

Sur le crédit 15—Administration, fonctionnement et entretien—M. Schneider fait une déclaration, puis il répond, avec l'aide de M. Tupper et de M. Cook, à des questions.

Après débat, les crédits 15, 20, 25 et 30 sont réservés.

Il est *décidé* que la réponse à la question posée lors de la séance précédente par M. McCutcheon à M. de Salaberry soit imprimée en appendice aux témoignages de ce jour. (*Voir Appendice «C»*).

Il en est de même des tableaux intitulés «Aide à la recherche dans les universités en 1968-1969». (*Voir Appendice «D»*).

Le Comité *décide* de ne pas convoquer les témoins de nouveau.

A 5 h. 30 de l'après-midi, le Comité s'ajourne jusqu'au mardi 29 avril 1969.

Le secrétaire du Comité,
D. E. Levesque.

20163—1½

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

[Text]

THURSDAY, April 24, 1969.
(18)

The Standing Committee on Miscellaneous Estimates met this day at 9:30 p.m. The Chairman, Mr. Fernand E. Leblanc, presiding.

Members present: Messrs. Leblanc (Laurier), McCutcheon, Noël, Pennell, Thompson (Battleford-Kindersley)—(6).

Witnesses: From the National Research Council: Dr. W. G. Schneider, President; Dr. K. F. Tupper, Vice-President; Dr. W. H. Cook, Executive Director and Director of Biosciences Division; Dr. J. L. Osbers, Chief Financial Adviser.

The Chairman called the Estimates 1969-70 relating to the National Research Council and introduced the witnesses.

On Item 15, Administration, Operation and Maintenance, Dr. Schneider made a statement and assisted by Dr. Tupper and Cook, answered questions.

On Item 20, Grants, and Item 25, Capital, and 30, were allowed to stand.

It was agreed that the answer to Mr. McCutcheon's question asked at our previous meeting of Mr. de Salaberry, be appended to this day's evidence. (See Appendix "C")

Also the Tables entitled "Support of Research at Universities 1968-69". (See Appendix "D")

The Committee agreed that the witnesses be not recalled for further questioning.

At 5:30 p.m., the Committee adjourned to Tuesday, April 29, 1969.

D. E. Levesque,
Clerk of the Committee.

PROCÈS-VERBAL

[Traduction]

Le JEUDI 24 avril 1969.
(18)

Le Comité permanent des prévisions budgétaires qui devait se réunir cet après-midi à 4 h., sous la présidence de M. Fernand Leblanc.

Présents: MM. Leblanc (Laurier), McCutcheon, Noël, Pennell, Thompson (Battleford-Kindersley)—(6).

Témoins: Du Conseil national de recherches: M. W. G. Schneider, président; M. K. F. Tupper, vice-président; M. W. H. Cook, directeur exécutif et directeur de la Division des sciences biologiques; M. J. L. Osbers, conseil financier principal.

Le président met en délibération les prévisions budgétaires de 1969-1970 relatives au Conseil national de recherches, et il présente les témoins.

Sur le crédit 15—Administration, fonctionnement et entretien—M. Schneider fait une déclaration, puis il répond, avec l'aide de M. Tupper et de M. Cook, à des questions.

Après débats, les crédits 20, 25 et 30 sont réservés.

Il est décidé que la réponse à la question posée lors de la séance précédente par M. McCutcheon à M. de Salaberry soit imprimée en appendice aux témoignages de ce jour. (Voir Appendice «C»).

Il en est de même des tableaux intitulés «Aide à la recherche dans les universités en 1968-1969». (Voir Appendice «D»).

Le Comité décide de ne pas convoquer les témoins de nouveau.

A 5 h. 30 de l'après-midi, le Comité ajourne jusqu'au mardi 29 avril 1969.

Le secrétaire du Comité,
D. E. Levesque.

20163—1½

EVIDENCE

(Recorded by Electronic Apparatus)

[*Texte*]

Thursday, April 24, 1969

• 1559

The Chairman: Gentlemen, I call this meeting to order. I would like first to point out to you that yesterday I presented to the House my seventh report. As you will remember, at one time I made a statement here that we could not recommend expenses to the House so therefore we could not put forward any recommendation. After considering the matter, I was informed that we could recommend studies of matters, so that is what I did.

I did that on my own at that time, of course, and I did not ask officially what

• 1600

would have been your recommendations after the discussion of the votes of the House of Commons. You know that what we recommended is:

> (a) that the 7 per cent bonus paid to qualified bilingual employees in the Public Service should be granted as well to all the bilingual employees of the House of Commons;

I think we all agreed on that in the discussion at that time.

> (b) that Members of Parliament should be supplied with the services of a secretary, all the year round;

which we also discussed thoroughly.

> (c) that the allowance paid to Members of Parliament using their automobiles for transportation should be increased from (7 cents) to (12 cents) per mile;
>
> (d) that the authorities of the House of Commons should review the status of all the employees in the offices of the Whips of the different parties.

Now, gentlemen, this morning we were invited by the National Research Council of Canada to visit the operation of the Council. I wish to thank the President, Dr. W. G. Schneider, for his invitation and for his nice hospitality, as well as all the other officers who took care of us this morning. I think it

TÉMOIGNAGES

(Enregistrement électronique)

[*Interprétation*]

Le jeudi 24 avril 1969

Le président: Messieurs, s'il vous plaît. Je déclare la séance ouverte. Tout d'abord, je voudrais vous indiquer que, hier, j'ai soumi à la Chambre mon septième rapport. Maintenant, vous vous souviendrez qu'à un moment donné j'avais fait ici une déclaration dans laquelle j'indiquais que nous ne pouvions pas recommander des dépenses à la Chambre et que, par conséquent, nous ne pouvions pas soumettre de recommandation. Mais, après avoir étudié la question, j'ai été avisé que nous pouvions recommander l'étude de certaines questions. C'est ce que j'ai fait.

Maintenant, je l'ai fait de ma propre initiative parce qu'à ce moment-là, bien sûr, je n'ai pas officiellement demandé ce qu'auraient été vos recommandations après la discussion des votes à la Chambre des communes. Vous savez que nous avons recommandé que «d'une part, (a) que la prime de 7 p. 100 payée à des employés qualifiés bilingues de la Fonction publique soit accordée également à tous les employés bilingues de la Chambre des Communes.» Je pense que nous étions tous d'accord à ce sujet. Deuxièmement, (b) que «les députés devraient avoir une secrétaire toute l'année», question que nous avons traitée à fond. (c) que «la prime accordée aux députés utilisant leur automobile passe de 7 cents à 12 cents le mille». (d) que «les autorités de la Chambre des Communes revoient le statut de tous les employés de bureaux des Whips des différents partis.»

Maintenant, messieurs, ce matin nous avons été invités par le conseil de recherches du Canada à le visiter. J'en remercie le président, le Dr W. G. Schneider ainsi que toutes les personnes qui se sont occupées de nous. Je pense que cela a été très enrichissant pour les députés qui y ont assisté et que nous avons

[*Text*]

was very enriching for the members who were present and that we learned a lot, although I believe it would take at least a week to go through that operation and study it closely.

This morning we were provided with information kits regarding the National Research Council and also with two booklets pertaining to the division of building research and these kits, I understand, are available to the members who were not present at the visit this morning.

As mentioned in your notice of meeting, this afternoon we are going to study Votes 15, 20, 25 and 30 relating to the National Research Council and I would like to present to you our witnesses, Dr. W. G. Schneider, President, National Research Council; Dr. K. F. Tupper, Vice-President Administration; Dr. W. R. McKinley, Director, Radio and Electrical Engineering Division; Dr. J. L. Osberg, Chief Financial Adviser; Dr. W. H. Cook, Executive Director and Director of Biosciences Division and Mr. René Montpetit, Director of Information Services.

Now, Mr. President, would you like to open with a statement relating to your operation in general?

Dr. W. G. Schneider (President, National Research Council): Mr. Chairman and gentlemen, first of all let me say we were delighted to have some members of this Committee come out this morning to visit the laboratories. It was a matter of some regret to us that time was so short and that we could show you only a small part of the operation, but I do hope that there will be a future occasion when you might be able to arrange another visit.

To those of you who visited us this morning I gave a very brief resume of the over-all activities of the Council. I might just perhaps enlarge on this a bit. The National Research Council operates under its Act and according to this Act the Council has responsibility for all matters relating to scientific and industrial research assigned to it by the Committee, the Committee here being the Committee of the Privy Council for Scientific and Industrial Research. Among other things the Council is directed to undertake, assist and promote scientific and industrial research and, of

• 1605

course, also a number of areas are particularly specified. As this has evolved over the years, essentially it now revolves around three main areas and each of these, as you will see here, is covered by a separate Parliamentary vote.

[*Interpretation*]

appris beaucoup, bien que je croie qu'il faudrait au moins une semaine pour visiter complètement cette installation et l'étudier en profondeur.

Ce matin, on nous a fourni des dossiers d'information concernant le Conseil de recherches et également deux livrets relatifs à la Division de la recherche sur la construction et je crois savoir que ces dossiers sont à la disposition des députés qui ne sont pas venus avec nous ce matin. Comme indiqué dans votre avis de réunion, nous allons étudier cet après-midi, les crédits, 15, 20, 25, 30 se rapportant au Conseil national de recherches. J'aimerais vous présenter nos témoins, le docteur W. G. Schneider, président, du Conseil national de recherches; le docteur K. F. Tupper, vice-président à l'administration; Dr W. R. McKenley, directeur de la Division des études radio et de l'électricité; le docteur J. L. Osberg, conseiller financier en chef et le docteur W. H. Cook, directeur administratif et directeur de la division des bio-sciences, ainsi que M. René Montpetit, directeur des services d'information. Monsieur le président, avez-vous un exposé à nous donner tout d'abord, sur votre exploitation en générale?

Dr W. G. Schneider (président du Conseil national des recherches): Monsieur le président, messieurs. Tout d'abord, je veux vous dire combien il nous a fait plaisir de recevoir quelques membres du Comité ce matin lorsque vous êtes venus visiter les laboratoires. Le seul regret que nous ayons, est que le temps ait été si court, et que nous n'ayons pu vous montrer qu'une petite partie de l'exploitation. J'espère que plus tard, nous aurons l'occasion d'organiser une autre visite.

A ceux d'entre vous qui nous ont rendu visite ce matin j'ai donné un court exposé des activités générales du Conseil. Peut-être puis-je approfondir un peu cet exposé. Le Conseil national des recherches exploite ces laboratoires au terme de la loi. Selon la loi, le Conseil est chargé de toutes les questions qui se rattachent à la recherche scientifique et industrielle référées par le Comité, c'est-à-dire le Comité du Conseil privé pour la recherche industrielle et scientifique. Le Conseil s'occupe notamment d'entreprendre et de promouvoir la recherche industrielle et scientifique et d'un certain nombre de domaines précis. Au cours des années, le travail évolue essentiellement autour de trois domaines principaux couverts individuellement par un crédit parlementaire distinct.

[*Texte*]

The first of these I might mention is the program of university grants and scholarships which is Vote 25. This is a program to assist research in the universities and to provide scholarships to graduate students who are undertaking research training. I will not say any more about this program at the moment; you may wish more details later. This is entirely an extramural program in the sense that we administer the program but all the money is paid out for the purposes indicated.

The second main area is industrial research assistance and promotion, and this is also an extramural program which we administer. Under this program, the so-called Industrial research assistance program, industries make project proposals, projects they consider of high priority, for which they would like to get assistance under this program. These are reviewed by a special expert committee and those projects which are approved are then funded on a shared cost basis. It is roughly on a fifty-fifty basis.

I might mention in this area that we also have another program. First I should say that the IRAP, Industrial research assistance Program, is Vote 30.

There is also another program I should mention, Technical Information Service, which has been going for some time and is a very active program and very much appreciated by industry. This is really a mechanism for disseminating technical information to industries that need it. We have a number of staff here in Ottawa who receive inquiries from industry concerning the problems they have and they chase these down. The majority can be solved simply by doing a bit of intensive literature search. Those that cannot be so dealt with are referred to our laboratories.

In addition, we have a number of people in the field, and here we have very excellent co-operation with provincial research councils. These are industrial engineers who visit local industries and find out what their problems are and try to help them to find solutions.

The third major area is our laboratories. This is intramural research, but as I will explain there are also other things covered under this Vote 15. This covers all the operations of our laboratories. We have 12 research divisions. One of them is in Saskatoon, the Prairie Region Laboratory; one in Halifax, the Atlantic Region Laboratory and the rest are located here in Ottawa. These cover quite a spectrum of research, all the way from biol-

[*Interprétation*]

D'abord, le programme des subventions aux universités et des bourses d'études qui figurent au crédit n° 25. Un programme destiné à aider la recherche dans les universités et à octroyer des bourses aux universitaires qui désirent une formation dans la recherche. Je n'ajouterai rien de plus à propos de ce programme. Vous aimeriez peut-être plus de détails plus tard. C'est un programme tout à fait extra-muros dans ce sens que nous gérons le programme, mais que l'argent est payé aux fins indiquées.

L'autre poste a trait à l'aide aux recherches industrielles et à la promotion. C'est aussi un programme extra-muros que nous administrons. Au titre de ce programme appelé Programme d'aide aux recherches industrielles, les industries présentent des projets, qui sont considérés comme étant très importants, et pour lesquels elles aimeraient recevoir de l'aide. Les projets sont examinés par un comité spécial d'experts et les projets qui reçoivent notre approbation sont subventionnés sur une base de partage des dépenses, à peu près de 50 p. 100.

Je devrais mentionner qu'un autre programme nous intéresse, c'est celui de l'Aide aux recherches industrielles, qui figure au crédit n° 30.

Il y a aussi le programme des services de renseignements techniques. C'est un programme très efficace et très apprécié de l'industrie. C'est à vrai dire un rouage pour diffuser les renseignements techniques aux industries qui en ont besoin. Nous avons à Ottawa, des employés qui reçoivent les demandes de renseignements de l'industrie relatives aux problèmes qu'ils rencontrent, et ceux-ci font les recherches appropriées. La plupart de ces problèmes peuvent être résolus par la recherche. Ceux qui ne peuvent pas l'être sont transmis à nos laboratoires.

Nous avons en plus des gens sur place et nous connaissons ici une très bonne collaboration des comités de recherches provinciaux. Il s'agit d'ingénieurs industriels qui visitent les industries locales, qui prennent connaissance de leurs problèmes et essayent de trouver des solutions.

Le troisième secteur est le laboratoire de recherches intra-muros qui figure au crédit n° 15. Cela a trait à tous les travaux de nos laboratoires. Nous comptons 12 divisions de recherches. L'une d'elles est située à Saskatoon, le laboratoire de la région des Prairies, l'autre à Halifax, le Laboratoire de la région Atlantique et les autres sont à Ottawa. Ils couvrent un réseau assez considérable de recherches. Vous en avez eu une idée ce

[*Text*]

ogy—you saw part of that this morning—to heavy engineering, aeronautics, and so on.

The major programs here are industrially oriented. Of course, we also are asked to do a number of research projects by other government departments and some projects we initiate ourselves, and we also do a certain amount of basic backup research.

I should perhaps mention also that we operate the Churchill Research Range as a facility, although most of the experiments there are initiated by university scientists. However, we provide all the engineering backup and operate the range at this facility. I might also mention the Algonquin Radio Observatory in Algonquin Park, which is also a facility that we have provided and operate, but which in extensively used by university scientists.

I might say that in addition to the actual research programs there are also a number of services—you might say research services—that we provide for the whole country; for example, the National Science Library which is doing a very active job in trying to disseminate scientific and technical information across the country. It is perhaps one of the best scientific libraries on this continent, and since it is a central library it has a very big responsibility to serve the entire country—industries, universities and other government laboratories.

We are trying to automate this as rapidly as possible because this area, as you know, with the amount of scientific and technical information that is coming out, is growing very, very rapidly.

In here also we might include eight scientific research journals which the Council publishes, and these are also growing very rapidly because we have had a very big expansion in university research and all of this material is now coming out. It is no good to anyone unless it is published, and here we are faced with very rapidly rising costs.

Finally, I might just mention that the whole area of physical standards and calibrations, again for the whole country—industry, universities, government laboratories—is done in our laboratories. This was a specific function assigned to the National Research Council. This is also a growing activity because the needs from outside are growing very rapidly. While this more or less encompasses the areas that come under our Vote 15, I might also mention that all the administrative costs for the extramural programs which come under Votes 25 and 30 also come out of our Operations Vote 15, so this really supplies the main administrative back-up.

[*Interpretation*]

matin, de la biologie au génie de l'aéronautique lourde et autre.

Les programmes principaux sont orientés vers l'industrie et naturellement, à certains projets que d'autres ministères nous demandent de faire et à d'autres dont nous prenons nous-mêmes l'initiative et une certaine recherche de soutien.

Je devrais peut être dire aussi que nous exploitons des rampes de lancement expérimentales à Churchill, même si la plupart des expériences reviennent à des chercheurs d'universités. Nous assurons l'équipement et l'entretien de la rampe. Il y a aussi l'Observatoire de radio du parc Algonquin qui est un autre service que nous fournissons et exploitons, et qui est utilisé par des savants d'universités.

En plus des programmes de recherches actuels, il y a également un bon nombre de services disons des services de recherches que nous offrons dans tout le pays. Vous avez la Bibliothèque des sciences naturelles qui fait un travail très efficace de diffusion de renseignements techniques et scientifiques dans le pays. C'est peut-être une des meilleures bibliothèques du genre au pays. Étant donné le fait qu'elle soit centrale, elle a de nombreuses responsabilités vis-à-vis des industries, universités ainsi que des laboratoires des autres gouvernements.

Nous essayons de l'automatiser aussitôt que possible parce que c'est un secteur où le nombre de données techniques et scientifiques s'accroît très très rapidement.

Nous pourrions également ajouter huit publications scientifiques publiées par le Conseil, qui croissent très rapidement parce que la recherche universitaire connaît une forte expansion et tout ce matériel est en train de sortir maintenant. Toutes ces données valent peu de chose si on ne peut les publier pour les mettre à la disposition des gens.

Et enfin de compte, il y a le travail dans tout le secteur des normes physiques et des étalons pour tout le pays, industries, universités, laboratoires du gouvernement, qui se fait dans nos laboratoires, et c'est là une fonction que l'on affecte au Conseil national des recherches. Ce sont tous des programmes qui doivent s'accroître parce que les besoins de l'extérieur augmentent très rapidement. Quoique ces considérations comprennent plus ou moins tous le domaine de notre crédit 15, je devrais dire que tous les coûts administratifs pour les programmes extérieurs qui sont couverts par les crédits 25 et 30, proviennent également du crédit 15, donc ce crédit fournit le principal support administratif.

[*Texte*]

Perhaps I should also mention that Canadian Patents and Development Limited, which is a subsidiary company of the National Research Council, is the agency that takes over patented material, secures patents and licences patents to industry. They are essentially, then, our main mechanism, or one of the main mechanisms, for transferring developments in the laboratories to industry and into production. This is a rapidly growing enterprise at the moment and they are reinvesting some of their income from successful licences, and so on, to develop new patents, so this is a rather effective mechanism for transferring developments in the laboratories out to industry and into production.

Canadian Patents and Development Limited, of course, also handle patenting and licensing for other government departments and for some universities. I do not think I should say any more at this point, Mr. Chairman. If you would like me to go into more detail on any one point I will be glad to do so.

The Chairman: Thank you. Mr. McCutcheon?

Mr. McCutcheon: Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. I should like to refer, if I may, to the item under Vote 15, Professional and Special Services. I wonder if Dr. Schneider would elaborate a little on that. I have such a high regard for the National Research Council that I thought all the professionals would be in that organization.

Dr. Schneider: May I ask Dr. Osberg to tell us what is included under this item?

The Chairman: That is in the amount of $5.048 million, for 1969-70.

• 1615

Mr. McCutcheon: For 1969-70 there is a reduction of $726,400 from the previous year.

The Chairman: That is right.

Dr. J. L. Osberg, (Chief Financial Adviser, National Research Council): Professional and Special Services covers quite a list of our operations. For example, we have within the National Research Council a Post-doctorate Fellowships scheme. These people are not regular staff. It is roughly $1 million. This includes stipends to cover their period here based on per year plus their travel which is associated with it.

[*Interprétation*]

Je devrais aussi mentionner la Société canadienne des brevets et d'exploitation limitée, qui est une filiale du Conseil national des recherches, est l'agence qui prend en main le matériel breveté, obtient des brevets et en fournit les permis à l'industrie. Elle est, donc, essentiellement notre rouage principal, ou l'un des principaux, pour transférer les développements des laboratoires à l'industrie et à la production. C'est là une entreprise qui croît beaucoup à l'heure actuelle, ils réinvestissent une partie de leur revenu provenant de permis lucratifs en vue de la mise au point de nouveaux brevets; alors, nous croyons que c'est un mécanisme assez efficace pour transférer les nouvelles méthodes des laboratoires à l'industrie et à la production.

La Société canadienne des brevets et d'exploitation limitée, s'occupe aussi des brevets pour les autres ministères ainsi que pour certaines universités. Je ne pense pas que je devrais en dire davantage, maintenant, monsieur le président. Si vous voulez que je vous donne davantage de détails sur un point donné, je me ferai un plaisir de le faire.

Le président: Merci. Monsieur McCutcheon, vous avez une question à poser?

M. McCutchon: Merci beaucoup, monsieur le président. J'aimerais vous renvoyer au crédit 15, au poste des services professionnels et spéciaux. Est-ce que le docteur Schneider pourrait nous dire quelque chose à propos de cette question? J'ai une si haute estime du Conseil national de recherches que je croyais que tous les professionnels seraient déjà affectés à cet organisme.

M. Schneider: Puis-je demander à M. Osberg de nous dire ce qui est compris dans ce poste?

Le président: Il est de l'ordre de $5.048 millions pour 1969-1970.

M. McCutcheon: Pour l'année 1969-1970, il y a une réduction de $726,000 d'avec l'année précédente.

Le président: C'est exact.

M. J. L. Osberg (Conseiller financier en chef, Conseil national de recherches): Les services professionnels et spéciaux couvrent une grande partie de notre activité. Par exemple, nous avons au Conseil national de recherches un programme de bourses après le doctorat. Ces personnes ne font pas partie du personnel régulier. Le programme coûte environ 1 million. Ce sont des subventions pour payer leurs dépenses de séjour ici, calculées sur une base

[*Text*]

Another large item which comes under this category is the operation of the Churchill Research Range which is carried out under contract by Pan American World Airways. This is at the order of $2.2 million.

The Canadian Corps of Commissionaires is another item. It serves as protective and watching services for the National Research Council.

Then we get down to smaller amounts. I think for the *Canadian Journals of Research* we use a small group of people to perform editorial services. Those are the main ones I can think of.

The Chairman: Mr. McCutcheon, have you any more questions regarding this particular item?

Dr. J. L. Osberg: He wanted to know what the decrease was caused by. The decrease in the main is a $726,400 decrease from one estimate to the other. $300,000 of this was a decrease in the Postdoctorate Fellowship scheme and we anticipated a lower contract with the Churchill operation involving Pan American World Airways. Then there are decreased costs for the Canadian Corps of Commissionaires. These are the main items; the reduction caused by the change in the Postdoctorate Fellowship scheme and a change in the contract with Pan American.

Mr. McCutcheon: Thank you. I do not want to appear too ignorant, but the only way I can get information is to ask questions, so perhaps you will permit me to ask another one.

Expendable Research Equipment shows a reduction of $1.2 million. Did you not smash up as much stuff?

Dr. K. F. Tupper, (Vice-President, National Research Council): Mr. Chairman, that is a very reasonable question. We do not capitalize the ordinary research hardware. We capitalize our buildings. They are paid for under this scheme out of Vote 20, but the contents of a building, for instance an electronic digital computer, cathode ray oscilloscope, microscope, a voltmeter or anything you may use does not have a fifty-year life as does a building. It gets obsolete, generally, in a period which may run between about two and ten years. This is categorized, therefore, as expendable research equipment and we are cutting down on that, not because we would not like to spend more but because, with the resources available, we can deploy it to best advantage in this way. So it represents, you

[*Interpretation*]

annuelle et les frais de déplacement. Dans cette même catégorie, un autre poste important est l'exploitation du polygone de recherches de Churchill qui est exécutée aux termes d'un contrat par la *Pan American World Airways*, et il est de l'ordre de $2.2. millions.

Il y a aussi le Corps des Commissionnaires du Canada qui est un service de protection et de surveillance pour le Conseil national de recherches.

Puis nous passons aux petits montants. Je pense aux *Canadian Journals of Research* pour lesquels nous employons un petit groupe de personnes pour accomplir les fonctions éditoriales. Ce sont les principaux postes auxquels je pense.

Le président: Monsieur McCutcheon, avez-vous encore des questions à poser au sujet de ce poste?

M. J. L. Osberg: Il voulait savoir pourquoi il y avait cette réduction. En somme il y a une réduction de $726,400 d'une prévision à une autre. De ce montant, $300,000 est la réduction pour les bourses post-doctorales et nous avions prévu un contrat moins élevé au sujet de l'exploitation de Churchill concernant la *Pan American World Airways*. Il y a aussi la réduction du coût pour le Corps des commissionnaires. Ce sont les principaux postes où il y a eu réduction.

M. McCutcheon: Merci. Je ne veux pas trop montrer mon ignorance, mais la seule façon que je puisse me renseigner c'est de poser des questions; permettez-moi donc d'en poser une autre.

Le matériel de recherche consomptible indique une réduction de $1.2 million. Vous n'avez pas brisé autant de matériel?

M. K. F. Tupper (Vice-président, Conseil national de recherches): C'est une question très sensée, monsieur le président. Nous ne capitalisons pas notre matériel de recherches ordinaire. Nous capitalisons nos immeubles. Ils sont payés par le programme établi sous le crédit 20, mais le contenu d'un immeuble, par exemple, un ordinateur numérique électronique, un oscilloscope cathodique, un microscope, un voltmètre ou tout le matériel que l'on peut utiliser n'a pas une durée possible de cinquante ans comme un immeuble. Il devient désuet, généralement au bout de deux à dix ans. C'est ce qu'on appelle le matériel de recherches consomptible et nous diminuons nos prévisions budgétaires, pas parce que nous ne voulons pas dépenser davantage, mais parce que, avec les ressources qui sont à

[*Texte*]

might say, a diminution in our procurement of new equipment within the laboratories.

• 1620

Mr. McCutcheon: Is it going to mean a reduction in your over-all efforts?

Dr. Tupper: The reduction is built in automatically. You will notice in the vote there is given an establishment figure and you will see that we have a reduction of about 216 positions, so that in point of fact we do not need as much equipment to keep a smaller staff equipped as we did the larger staff.

Mr. McCutcheon: Was the reduction in staff brought about by an effort to reduce the operations of the National Research Council? What caused this reduction? Everything else seems to be accelerating, shall we say.

Dr. Schneider: I think this is really a matter of having to do some very tight budgeting here and to live within the same dollar budget as we had last year. This also required the absorption of salary increases and promotions and a reduction in staff. Some of the salary increases were provided previously under the contingency fund but they now have to be provided for in the budget; so this simply means that there is less money left for equipment.

Mr. McCutcheon: Now may I refer you to just above that, under Section B—Contributions to Superannuation Account, (Treasury Board). I assume this is for pensions and what not. This amount is doubled and yet we are having a reduction in the actual physicial work that you people are undertaking. In a long-term view I am wondering about this.

Dr. Tupper: Mr. Chairman, the items which are listed above the vote are costs incurred on behalf of the National Research Council by other departments and agencies. The Superannuation Act and all of the costs pertaining to it are dealt with outside of the National Research Council. When there is, through collective bargaining or any other process, an increase in salary which is going to be effective from then on, there is an automatic increase in the pension of people who will retire in a few years' time since the pension is based on their six highest earning years. So when salaries are raised a sum of money must be entered into the Superannuation Account to cover the liability in the future

[*Interprétation*]

notre disposition, c'est de cette façon que nous pouvons en tirer le plus grand avantage. Donc, cela représente une réduction dans nos achats de nouveau matériel pour nos laboratoires.

M. McCutcheon: Est-ce que cela veut dire une réduction dans votre effort d'ensemble?

M. Tupper: La réduction est automatique. Vous remarquerez que dans le crédit, il y a une réduction de quelques 216 emplois dans l'effectif, donc nous n'avons pas besoin d'autant de matériel qu'avant puisque le personnel est plus petit.

M. McCutcheon: Est-ce que cette réduction de l'effectif provient d'un effort pour réduire l'activité du Conseil national de recherches? En d'autres mots, qu'est-ce qui a causé cette réduction, alors que tout le reste semble être à la hausse?

Dr Schneider: Il s'agit d'établir nos prévisions budgétaires avec beaucoup d'attention et de nous en tenir au même budget que l'année dernière. Cela nécessite le gel des salaires et des promotions, ainsi qu'une réduction des effectifs. Certaines augmentations de salaire ont été prélevées du fonds de prévoyance dans le passé, mais il nous faut maintenant les prévoir dans le budget, ce qui veut dire qu'il y aura moins d'argent pour l'équipement.

M. McCutcheon: Je vous renvoie à l'article B, contribution à la caisse des retraites (Conseil du Trésor). Il me semble qu'il s'agit de pensions. La somme est doublée et pourtant il y a une réduction du travail technique que vous entreprenez. Je m'interroge donc sur cette disposition.

M. Tupper: Les articles dont il est question au-dessus du crédit, représentent les dépenses effectuées pour le Conseil national de recherches par d'autres ministères et organismes. La Loi sur les pensions de retraite est administrée en dehors du Conseil national de recherches. Si l'on augmente les salaires, à la suite d'une négociation collective ou par d'autres moyens, les pensions des personnes qui doivent prendre leur retraite quelques années plus tard sont augmentées automatiquement, puisque leur pension est évaluée d'après leurs six années de traitement le plus élevé. Donc, dès que les salaires augmentent, il nous faut verser une somme proportionnelle au fonds de pensions, somme qui correspond aux obli-

[*Text*]

which the government has faced by virtue of having passed the Act and raised the salaries, so we do not estimate this.

I might say that some of us were as surprised as the member who asked the questions to discover that this went from $2,619,-100 in one year to $5,592,100. We can only assume that there has been some change in their accounting procedures or their actuarial calculations. This does not represent a dollar figure in this year but simply an amount which must be set aside for funding purposes to match a future liability.

Mr. McCutcheon: It represents to me, with great respect, more concern with the retirement of people than with developments for the future under the worthwhile work of the National Research Council.

I have one more question, Mr. Chairman, if I might ask it at this time. Under Vote 25, Science and Engineering, we have a $5 million increase in grants in aid of research. To

• 1625

whom does this money go, and secondarily, do any of the people receiving these grants in their work—in other words do you have any records to indicate that we are subsidizing and brain drain in this country?

Dr. Schneider: Vote 25, as I explained, is for the purpose of university grants and scholarships. This is an extramural program and the main reason for the increase here is simply the growth of universities in taking on new staff, the number of students growing and so on, and it does not in fact represent an increase in the level of existing support. This is largely dictated by growth and in fact even this increase is modest in that respect.

As far as the brain drain is concerned, I think there has been quite a change in this. I think we are not losing as many Canadians now south of the border. In fact a reversal is almost developing. A lot of Canadians who write us want to come back to this country. At the moment they are having difficulty getting positions. I think we could get a lot more back if there were immediate openings.

Mr. McCutcheon: Thank you very much.

The Chairman: Have you any figures regarding the subsidies? Would the subsidies apply only to Canadian citizens or to any citizens at all?

Dr. Schneider: This is now with respect to grants to university staff and the requirement here is that the recipient must be a full-time staff member of a Canadian university. His application for the grant has to be approved

[*Interpretation*]

gations du gouvernement. Nous n'établissons donc pas de prévisions à ce sujet.

Certains d'entre nous ont été supris autant que vous de voir que la somme est passée de $2,619,100 à $5,592,100 en un an. Tout ce que nous pouvons dire, c'est qu'il y a eu certains changements dans leur comptabilité et leurs calculs actuariaux. Ce chiffre ne représente pas une prévision calculée pour cette année, mais un montant qui doit être mis de côté en vue d'obligations futures.

M. McCutcheon: Sauf votre respect, il me semble que vous vous intéressez plus à la retraite des gens qu'aux progrès futurs que représentent les importants travaux du Conseil national de recherches. J'ai une autre question. Au crédit 25, la science et le génie, nous avons une augmentation de 5 millions de dollars pour les subventions à la recherche. A qui va cet argent? Ne sommes-nous pas en train d'encourager l'exode des compétences?

M. Schneider: Comme je l'ai dit, le crédit 25 prévoit des subventions et des bourses universitaires. Il s'agit d'un programme extérieur, et l'accroissement s'explique du fait que les universités augmentent leur personnel et leur nombre d'étudiants; il ne représente pas une augmentation des effectifs actuels. L'augmentation est modeste à cet égard.

Quant à l'exode des compétences, il semble qu'il y ait eu un changement assez marqué. Je crois que nous perdons moins de nos talents outre frontière. Il semble même que le mouvement soit inverse. De nombreux Canadiens qui nous écrivent veulent revenir au pays, mais ils ont de la difficulté à touver de l'emploi. Nous pourrions en ramener beaucoup plus si nous avions des emplois à leur offrir.

M. McCutcheon: Merci.

Le président: Avez-vous des chiffres à propos de ces subventions? Est-ce qu'elles ne s'adressent qu'aux citoyens canadiens?

M. Schneider: Il s'agit de subventions au personnel des universités, et la condition nécessaire est que le bénéficiaire soit un membre à plein temps du personnel d'une université canadienne. Les demandes de sub-

[*Texte*]

by his department head and the president or a responsible officer signing for the president. Then when he makes his application he is considered purely on merit—his competence as a scientist and the value of his work.

The Chairman: Would those grants be given to any province at all or are there any provinces which are not within that scheme?

Dr. Schneider: No, there is no restriction here whatsoever. This is open to all universities in the country and, in fact, all universities participate.

The Chairman: Would you have any figures by provinces?

Dr. Schneider: Do you mean numbers or dollars?

The Chairman: Numbers and dollars both.

Dr. Schneider: We have compiled these figures. I am afraid I do not have them here but we can supply those to your Committee.

The Chairman: Would you be kind enough, then, to send them to the Clerk of the Committee so that we can include them in our Minutes of Proceedings and Evidence?

Dr. Tupper: Mr. Chairman, they will be found in the testimony which we gave before the Senate Committee on Science Policy at our first appearance, where the distribution of NRC funds, whether to universities or to industry, is broken down by province, I believe.

The Chairman: Do you have the minutes there?

Dr. Schneider: Not of the same meeting. There was a previous one last fall where we put in a lot of this kind of data. I cannot give you the issue number. This one is Number 21. The other one took place I think last October.

The Chairman: Then it will not be in Number 21. It will be in another issue.

Dr. W. H. Cook (Executive Director and Director of Biosciences Division, National Research Council): We have not the current expenditures by universities because this fiscal year is starting and there will be awards and adjustments made throughout the year. The figures there are not by provinces but by universities.

[*Interprétation*]

ventions doivent être approuvées par le directeur du département et le président ou son représentant. Les demandes sont étudiées en fonction du mérite seulement, c'est à dire de la compétence scientifique et de la valeur des travaux du candidat.

Le président: Ces subventions s'adressent-elles à toutes les provinces ou seulement aux provinces qui font partie du projet?

M. Schneider: A toutes les universités du pays sans exception. En fait, toutes les universités participent.

Le président: Vous n'auriez pas de chiffres par province?

M. Schneider: Le nombre de subventions ou les sommes?

Le président: Les deux.

M. Schneider: Nous avons fait ces calculs, mais nous n'avons pas les chiffres ici. Nous pourrions vous les communiquer.

Le président: Pourriez-vous les faire parvenir au secrétaire du Comité, pour que nous puissions les annexer au compte rendu des délibérations?

M. Tupper: Ils figurent dans le compte rendu de notre exposé au Comité du Sénat sur la politique scientifique. Les subventions du Conseil national de recherches, aux universités et à l'industrie, y figurent par province.

Le président: Avez-vous ce compte rendu?

M. Schneider: Je n'ai pas celui de cette réunion-là. Il y en avait un autre l'automne dernier, et il y avait beaucoup de renseignements de ce genre. Je ne sais quel est son numéro. Celui-ci est le numéro 21. L'autre date du mois d'octobre.

Le président: Il ne s'agit donc pas du numéro 21. Cela se trouve dans un autre numéro.

M. W. H. Cook (Directeur général de la division des sciences biologiques du Conseil national de recherches): Nous n'avons pas les dépenses par université parce que l'année financière commence et qu'il y aura des subventions et des ajustements pendant l'année. Les chiffres que nous avons ne sont pas établis par province mais par université.

[*Text*]

Dr. Schneider: This list I have here is the breakdown of all the awards to each university for the year 1968-69. We have quite a list

• 1630

here. I do not know how many institutions there are but they are institutions in all provinces. I believe there are 49 universities, which I think is pretty well all-inclusive.

The Chairman: May we have this list then? We could have a photocopy made if you want to keep it.

Dr. Cook: I have only one copy here. I could get more made.

The Chairman: We will ask the messenger to have a photocopy made so that we might have one here for the Minutes of Proceedings and Evidence.

Mr. Mather: I suppose the Committee agrees with your request for papers but we have not had that question put to us. I would personally agree with your request but I think in courtesy to the Committee the Chairman should ask if the Committee wishes this to be done. I will support you in that if you do.

The Chairman: All right. Does the Committee agree that those figures be printed as an appendix to today's Minutes of Proceedings and Evidence?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

The Chairman: Thank you. Mr. Thomson.

Mr. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Mr. Chairman, I have several questions. I did not have time to go through the reports that were included in the envelope these gentlemen gave to us, but actually most of my questions are for information only. There is only one area I am a little uneasy about which I will indicate in a moment, and perhaps if my questions are answered I will feel better about that too.

In effect, I would like a little broader explanation of some of the questions about students. For example, not only how students or university professors are given grants, but the terms of reference concerning the subjects. How do you decide whether you are going to give a grant on soil research, shall we say, or in some field of chemistry, and so on? What are your terms of reference or your order of priorities, if you will?

Dr. Schneider: I think you might be interested in some kits we brought along

[*Interpretation*]

M. Schenider: J'ai ici la liste de toutes les subventions accordées aux universités pour l'année 1968-1969. La liste est assez longue. Je ne sais pas combien d'institutions s'y trouvent mais il en a de toutes les provinces. Je crois qu'il y en a 49; ce chiffre doit donc toutes les comprendre.

Le président: Pouvons-nous avoir cette liste? Nous pourrons en faire faire une photocopie.

M. Cook: Je n'en ai qu'un exemplaire ici mais je peux en faire faire d'autres.

Le président: Nous allons faire photocopier cet exemplaire et nous annexerons la liste aux procès-verbaux et témoignages.

M. Mather: Je suppose que le Comité est d'accord, mais la question ne lui a pas été posée. Personnellement, je suis d'accord avec votre demande mais je pense que le président devrait demander au comité s'il désire le faire.

Le président: Très bien. Est-ce que le comité est d'accord pour que ces chiffres soient imprimés en annexe aux procès-verbaux et témoignages d'aujourd'hui?

Des voix: D'accord.

Le président: Merci. Monsieur Thomson.

M. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Monsieur le président, j'ai plusieurs questions à poser. Je n'ai pas eu le temps de parcourir le rapport qui figure dans l'enveloppe qui nous a été distribuée. En fait, la plupart de mes questions sont des questions de demande de renseignements surtout. Il y a un seul domaine dans lequel je ne suis pas trop au courant et j'espère que vous pourrez m'aider à éclaircir les choses, également là-dedans. En fait, je voudrais que l'on me donne certains éclaircissements sur les problèmes concernant les étudiants. Par exemple, non seulement comment les étudiants et les professeurs d'universités reçoivent des subventions, mais quelles sont les conditions qui réglementent le choix des sujets.

Comment décidez-vous si vous allez accorder une bourse en chimie, en pédagogie, etc? Quel est l'ordre de priorités, autrement dit, que vous accordez?

M. Schneider: Je pense que vous aimerez peut-être jeter un coup d'œil sur les docu-

[*Texte*]

which show the announcements that go to all the universities and spell out the areas in which the National Research Council will entertain applications. You see, we also have the Medical Research Council and the Canada Council, and there are, naturally, some interfaces. We work this out between us and then decide which Council will be responsible for which area. Of course, in some cases there is some overlap but we work this out together. The National Research Council covers all the scientific disciplines, all the physical sciences, life sciences and engineering.

There are a few anomalies; for example, experimental psychology. Some parts of psychology will be in the Medical Research Council and other parts of psychology, for example, educational psychology, might come under the Canada Council. We have a mutual agreement with the Canada Council about prehistoric archeology. They felt they could not undertake it because of mounting field expeditions; they do not normally give equipment grants and this sort of thing. They asked us whether we would take over prehistoric archeology and said they would take over anthropology and all the other related sciences.

Mr. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): I have a further question in this area, Mr. Chairman. In reference to, shall we say, a grant to a university professor at the University of Saskatchewan—it does not matter which one—do you ever tie in a condition that if they put up some money you will put up some money, or is it strictly on the basis of merit alone?

Dr. Schneider: It is strictly on the basis of merit. However, I should explain that the Council's grants are intended to be grants in aid; they do not cover the entire cost of research. This is a relevant point. The thinking here is that if the Council provided the entire cost it would be, perhaps, more difficult for the university to retain its own autonomy and its own control over what research programs they enter into. First of all, the university must pay the professor's salary. They must also provide him with space and facilities and our grants are grants in aid of his ordinary operating cost of research and some equipment. Also he is per-

[*Interprétation*]

ments que nous avons apportés avec nous et qui indiquent à peu près les domaines dans lesquels nous faisons porter notre attention, et les domaines dans lesquels nous acceptons des demandes. Bien sûr, le Conseil de recherches médicales et le Conseil des Arts du Canada sont des éléments qui ont des activités qui sont semblables dans certains cas. Nous étudions ces situations entre nous et nous décidons quel Conseil se chargera de quel secteur.

Il est probable qu'il y ait dans certains cas une sorte de chevauchement, mais nous réglons ces aspects entre nous. Le Conseil national de recherches couvre toutes les disciplines scientifiques, les sciences biologiques et le génie.

Il existe certaines anomalies; par exemple, la psychologie expérimentale. Certains aspects de la psychologie relèveront du Conseil des recherches médicales, par contre d'autres aspects comme la psychologie de l'éducation pourraient être du ressort du Conseil des Arts du Canada. Nous avons une entente avec le Conseil des Arts du Canada au sujet de l'archéologie préhistorique. Ils se sont aperçus qu'ils ne pouvaient l'entreprendre étant donné qu'ils n'étaient pas en mesure d'organiser les expéditions; d'ordinaire ils ne fournissent pas l'équipement. Par conséquent, ils nous ont demandé si nous voulions nous occuper d'archéologie préhistorique et se sont proposés de s'occuper de l'anthropologie et de toutes autres sciences connexes.

M. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): J'ai une autre question à ce sujet, monsieur le président. En ce qui concerne, disons, une bourse accordée à un professeur d'Université de la Saskatchewan, peu importe laquelle, est-ce que vous attachez des conditions, c'est-à-dire que s'ils disposent d'un certain montant, vous leur consentez un autre montant, ou est-ce strictement selon le mérite?

M. Schneider: Non, simplement selon le mérite du candidat. Mais je devrais également dire que les subventions du Conseil des Arts sont supposées être des bourses d'aide. Elles ne couvrent pas complètement les frais des travaux de recherche, parce que si nous couvrions tous les frais, il serait peut-être difficile pour l'université de conserver son autonomie et son contrôle sur le programme de recherches qu'elle entreprend. Donc, d'abord, c'est l'université qui paie le salaire du professeur. Elle doit également fournir les lieux de travail et les installations.

Nos bourses portent sur les frais de la recherche proprement dite et sur le matériel.

[*Text*]

mitted to hire some technicians or assistants under it, if his grant is sufficient.

Mr. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Mr. Chairman, I am thinking in terms of something that might come of this research. I will just use an example. If a student or a professor during his work should discover a glass that will not frost, obviously it would have some commercial application. Who then received the benefit when he has been working under a grant from, yourself in this case?

Mr. Schneider: We do not retain patent

• 1635

rights on anything that comes out of research under these grants. These are awards to the universities. When, let us say, the patent action is initiated, this may be done either by the university or, with some universities where we have an agreement it may be done through Canadian Patents and Development Ltd. But we do not retain the patent rights nor do we retain rights to equipment that is bought under the grant. This becomes the property of the university.

Mr. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): I have a further question in reference to industrial research and I want to use the same illustration. If I represented a glass company that had reason to think they could get a glass that would not frost, could I hire the National Research Council to do a project in this area, in relation to some ideas I might have.

Mr. Schneider: Yes. Here the kind of agreement that is drawn up varies in individual cases. Let us say it is done under contract and the company is paying for the cost of research, then any development that comes out of it becomes their property. If we develop something in our laboratories, even though the company may be interested, if we have done the work we will patent it and then we will licence it to Canadian Patents and Development Ltd. However, each individual case tends to be somewhat different.

Mr. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): I have just one further question in this area, Mr. Chairman. One hears that in industrial research where big companies and millions of dollars are involved that occasionally ideas

[*Interpretation*]

D'autre part, on lui permet de recruter quelques techniciens ou assistants, si le montant d'argent le lui permet.

M. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Monsieur le président, du point de vue de résultat de la recherche, par exemple, un étudiant ou un professeur qui met au point un verre qui ne givrera pas, il est clair que cette découverte a une valeur commerciale. Qui dont peut tirer profit, étant donné qu'il a bénéficié d'une subvention de votre part dans ce cas?

M. Schneider: En bien, nous n'avons aucun droit sur les brevets d'invention dans ce domaine. Cela constitue simplement des récompenses, disons, à l'université. Si, par exemple, il y a une demande de brevets qui est déposée c'est soit l'université, ou les universités avec lesquelles nous avons un accord, que c'est fait par l'intermédiaire du «*Canadian Patents and Developments Ltd.*» Mais, en ce qui nous concerne nous, personnellement, nous ne retenons aucun droit de brevets sur les découvertes. De même, nous ne conservons aucun droit de propriété sur le matériel qui est utilisé dans ces recherches. Cela devient la propriété de l'université en question.

M. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): J'ai une autre question en ce qui concerne la recherche industrielle, et j'aimerais utiliser le même exemple. Si je représentais une manufacture de verre qui a de bonnes raisons de croire qu'il y a moyen de découvrir un genre de verre qui ne givre pas. Croyez-vous que je pourrais charger le Conseil national de recherches d'entreprendre des recherches dans ce domaine.

M. Schneider: Oui, le genre d'ententes que nous concluons avec des particuliers varie d'un cas à l'autre. Disons que ces recherches sont entreprises sous contrat, et que la compagnie se charge des frais de la recherche; les résultats de la recherche deviennent la propriété de la compagnie. Si c'est nous qui faisons des découvertes dans nos laboratoires, même si la compagnie y est intéressée, si c'est nous qui avons entrepris les travaux, nous faisons breveter la découverte à la Société canadienne des brevets et d'exploitation Ltée. Mais disons que chaque cas est très particulier.

M. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Autre question supplémentaire dans ce domaine. Monsieur le président, vous entendez parler de grandes sociétés qui ont des millions de dollars d'investis dans la recherche, et des

[*Texte*]

are lost or stolen or what have you. Have you ever run into any problem in this area?

Dr. Schneider: This is a matter we have been discussing a good deal in the past few weeks; we are trying to evolve new mechanisms. But the whole question of proprietary information, as far as the industry is concerned, is a very sensitive one. Of course all our employees have taken an oath of secrecy and are bound to respect proprietary information. Sometimes, of course, the company may feel that there is certain information they regard as very valuable, and which is proprietary information. If they want help from us, they would have to divulge some of this and they might insist on some kind of agreement. It is a sensitive area, but I think we can work it out in individual cases. Just two days ago we had quite a long discussion with one of the major companies to see what mechanism we could work out in this area.

The other side of the coin is, for instance, if our researchers are doing work which has application to all industries in a particular sector, let us say, the pulp and paper industry, we would prefer, of course, that the information be made available to the whole industry. When we tie ourselves up by making an agreement with one company in a particular area, then we cannot divulge this to their competitors. So one has to look at these individual cases and see where the greatest benefit for Canada, for the whole industry, accrues.

Mr. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I have a question in a different area, and this is the area which I indicated earlier I feel a little uneasy about. Listening to the description of the way you arranged the St. Lawrence model this morning and the buildings, as I understand it, you got money from three different sources within the government, I had the feeling that the executive in charge was a bit of a horse trader. I am not criticizing him for that, but as a member of Parliament, and as we have a representative of the Treasury Board here, I would like to know if this is not a little bit of a loose arrangement. I am not criticizing your research people for raising money any way they could to complete a projet, but I wonder if there should not be just a little bit tighter

[*Interprétation*]

inventions qui sont perdues ou volées. Avez-vous eu affaire avec des problèmes de ce genre?

M. Schneider: C'est un sujet qui a fait l'objet de nombreuses discussions ces quelques dernières semaines; nous essayons de mettre au point de nouveaux mécanismes. Mais disons que toute la question des renseignements brevetés, pour ce qui est de l'industrie, est un sujet très sensible. Bien sûr, tous nos employés ont prêté serment et sont obligés de respecter le caractère secret des renseignements. Mais disons que dans certains cas la compagnie peut avoir l'impression qu'il y a certains renseignements qu'elle considère comme étant très précieux. Et si elles veulent qu'on les aide elles devront peut-être révéler une partie de ces renseignements et pourraient insister de le mentionner dans un accord. C'est un secteur très délicat, mais je crois que ça se règle assez bien dans les cas individuels. Il y a deux jours, nous avons longuement discuté avec l'une des grosses sociétés pour voir de quelle façon nous pourrions nous entendre dans ce domaine.

Maintenant, l'envers de la médaille, c'est que si nos chercheurs font des travaux qui s'appliquent à toutes les industries dans un secteur d'activité donné, comme par exemple le papier, eh bien, nous préférerions que cette découverte, ces renseignements soient mis à la disposition de l'ensemble de l'industrie.

Maintenant, lorsque nous sommes liés par un contrat avec une société dans un domaine donné, on ne peut divulguer ces renseignements à ses concurrents. De sorte que nous devons considérer tous ces cas particuliers, et voir où l'on a le plus et agir pour le plus grand bien du Canada, et de l'industrie dans son ensemble.

M. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Merci monsieur le président. J'ai une autre question sur un sujet différent, qui, comme je l'ai indiqué précédemment, m'inquiète quelque peu. En écoutant, ce matin, la description de la façon dont vous avez conçu cette maquette du Saint-Laurent et des bâtiments, j'ai cru comprendre que vous aviez obtenu les fonds de trois différentes sources, au sein du gouvernement et j'ai l'impression que le fonctionnaire responsable jouait un peu le rôle de maquignon. Je ne le critique pas pour autant, mais en ma qualité de député, et étant donné la présence parmis nous d'un représentant du Conseil du Trésor, je me demande si cette façon de faire n'est pas un peu vague. Je ne veux pas critiquer les membres du Conseil des recherches qui cherchent à obtenir de

[*Text*]

procedure as far as the Treasury Board in concerned.

Dr. Schneider: I understand very well your concern in this connection. I think I can assure you that this was not an exercise undertaken simply to get some money. This was a project which these other departments and agencies felt was very, very important and had to be done. They came to the National Research Council because we had certain facilities.

We had this hydraulics lab and we had a number of experts who had been doing a lot of work with the National Harbours Board and problems at various rivers, hydrology, hydraulics and so on. They felt this was the proper place this work should be done and they were prepared to put up some of the money in their departmental budgets to finance this. They felt it was high priority work that had to be done and they requested the National Research Council to do it. Of course, we have limited resources and we could not have financed a project of this magnitude out of our ordinary resources.

Mr. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): As I said, I am not criticizing the project, do not misunderstand me. It is just that I think the method of procuring money is a little irregular.

The Chairman: May I ask a supplementary, Mr. Thomson?

Is it unusual for you to get requests from various agencies, corporations or departments of the government which are grouping together on a projet of some sort with the National Research Council?

Dr. Scheneider: I think it happened in this particular case. A number of agencies are involved. The St. Lawrence Seaway Authority, the National Harbours Board, the Department of Transport, and I suppose even the Canadian Transport Commission, all have an interest in it. Of course, it is a very big waterway and it has repercussions on a lot of other systems. I think this is rather special, but we get quite a number of requests from other government departments to take on certain work where we have special facilities and people with special expertise to do it. For example, we do work for the Canadian National Railways, Air Canada and various other agencies.

[*Interpretation*]

l'argent pour leur projet, mais je voudrais savoir si on ne pourrait pas, en fait, avoir une procédure un peu plus rigide pour ce qui touche le Conseil du Trésor.

M. Schneider: Je comprends très bien votre souci et je peux simplement vous assurer que ce n'était pas là quelque chose qui a été fait simplement pour obtenir de l'argent. C'était un projet qui, de l'avis des autres organismes et ministères intéressés, était extrêmement important et devrait être réalisé. Cela nous a été confié parce que nous avions certaines installations pour le faire.

Nous avions des laboratoires hydrauliques et un certain nombre d'experts qui avaient longtemps travaillé avec le Conseil des ports nationaux et avaient affaire à certains problèmes concernant les fleuves, d'ordre hydrologique, hydraulique, etc. Ils ont jugé que c'était là le bon endroit pour effectuer ces travaux, et ils étaient disposés à mettre certains crédits dans le budget de leur ministère pour le financer. Il s'agissait d'un travail de grande priorité et ils ont demandé que ce soit le Conseil national de recherches qui le fasse. Bien sûr, nous disposons de peu de ressources pour faire un tel travail et nous ne pouvions pas utiliser nos ressources ordinaires.

M. Thomson: Ne croyez pas que je critique le projet en soi, c'est simplement que la méthode d'obtention des crédits est un peu irrégulière, je pense.

Le président: Puis-je poser une question supplémentaire, monsieur Thomson?

Est-ce que c'est là un procédé inhabituel que de recevoir des demandes de différentes sociétés, ministères, ou autres agences du gouvernement qui se mettent ensemble pour un projet quelconque avec le Conseil national de recherches?

M. Schneider: Eh bien disons que c'est le cas ici. Il y a plusieurs services d'intéressés. L'Administration de la voie maritime du Saint-Laurent, le Conseil des ports nationaux, le ministère des Transports, et je suppose, même la Commission canadienne des transports, tous y sont intéressés. Évidemment, il s'agit d'une grande voie d'eau, projet qui a des répercussions sur plusieurs autres systèmes. Je pense que c'est là un cas très particulier en fait, mais nous recevons de nombreuses demandes de la part des ministères pour faire certains travaux parce que nous avons le personnel et les installations nécessaires pour le faire. Par exemple, nous faisons des recherches pour Air Canada, le Canadien National, et pour d'autres encore.

[*Texte*]

The Chairman: Mr. Thomson.

Mr. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Mr. Chairman, I just have a couple of technical questions and I would prefer that the other members have their say and then if there is time I could come back.

The Chairman: We will come back to you, then. Mr. Penner.

Mr. Penner: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I will begin by saying what a useful and interesting morning it has been, and I thank Dr. Schneider and the other people at the National Research Council for the time they have taken from their very busy schedules. I found it interesting and informative.

Is there one of your internal research projects that you can isolate as being the major project at the present time in terms of dollars expended or of man-hours?

Dr. Schneider: If you would permit me to put two of them together, I would identify the National Aeronautical Establishment and the Division of Building Research, which you visited this morning. Both of these organizations are serving an entire industry in Canada and, in fact, they are the main research back-up for these industries. Of course, in terms of dollars, I do not know how many millions or billions of dollars the construction industry spends in a year.

An hon. Member: It is $11 billion.

Dr. Schneider: They spend $11 billion a year. In those terms I think the amount of research we are doing is this area is really quite small, it is minuscule. As far as the aircraft industry is concerned, as you know this is also a large multimillion dollar industry and, in fact, probably is one of our biggest export earners. It is a pity we were not able to arrange for you to visit the National Aeronautical Establishment. The wind tunnels there, of course, are quite costly facilities and for that reason not every aircraft company can afford them. It makes sense to have such a centralized facility and to make it available to the entire industry. These wind tunnels are virtually operating around the clock and I think they are really making a very important contribution to the aircraft industry.

[*Interprétation*]

Le président: Monsieur Thomson.

M. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Monsieur le président, j'ai seulement quelques questions techniques, et je préférerais les poser plus tard après que les autres membres auront posé leurs questions, s'il reste du temps.

Le président: Nous reviendrons donc à vous. Monsieur Penner.

M. Penner: Merci, monsieur le président. Je voudrais, pour commencer, dire que notre matinée a été très intéressante et utile et je remercie M. Schneider et les autres fonctionnaires du Conseil national de recherches pour le temps qu'ils ont passé avec nous et les renseignements très valables qu'ils nous ont fournis.

Est-ce qu'il y a un de vos projets de recherche intérieure que vous pourriez isoler et que vous considérez comme étant le projet majeur actuellement du point de vue du nombre d'heures de travail ou du point de vue des dollars dépensés?

M. Schneider: Si vous me permettez d'en joindre deux ensemble, je dirais qu'il y a l'Institut national d'aéronautique, et la Division des recherches en construction que vous avez visitée ce matin. Ces deux organismes sont aux services d'une industrie entière au Canada et, en fait, ils constituent le principal support de cette industrie, du point de vue recherches. Bien sûr, du point de vue des dollars investis, je ne sais pas combien de millions ou de milliards l'industrie de la construction dépense à chaque année.

Une voix: Onze milliards.

M. Schneider: Ils dépensent 11 milliards par an. Eh bien, je pense qu'en ce sens, la quantité de recherches que nous faisons dans ce domaine est assez limitée, est assez minuscule. Maintenant, en ce qui concerne l'industrie aéronautique, comme vous le savez, c'est également un domaine qui s'élève à plusieurs millions de dollars, et même c'est probablement une des industries exportatrices les plus importantes du pays. Il est regrettable que nous n'avons pu vous faire visiter l'Institut national de l'aéronautique. Évidemment les souffleries sont des installations très dispendieuses, et pour cette raison, peu de compagnies aériennes en ont les moyens. Il est raisonnable d'avoir une installation centralisée qui est mise à la disposition de toute l'industrie. Les souffleries fonctionnent presque continuellement, et je pense qu'elles sont d'une aide très importante à l'industrie aéronautique.

[*Text*]

• 1645

Mr. Penner: Thank you. I know the members who were present this morning were quite impressed with the Seaway model. This is a research project that to someone just coming in is naturally very impressive. In answer to Mr. Thomson's question you mentioned that a number of departments were involved in this. Could you specify for the Committee a few of the most important practical applications of this model?

Dr. Tupper: Mr. Chairman, the problems of the St. Lawrence River are primarily those of water levels, deeper draft ships and keeping the channel open many months of the year. The depth of flow and the velocities in the river are altered by everything you do to it. If you dredge a channel down the centre of the river the water will flow down that centre channel at a higher speed and as a consequence of this the level may fall upstream.

If you build a pier or some groins to stop erosion of the banks, there will again be some effects. Everything that man does on the St. Lawrence River finally has an effect on the water levels at Montreal and the nature of the ship channel.

It costs very large sums of money to do work full-scale. Your spending is in terms of millions of dollars when you get into dredging programs, construction of docks, harbours, and so on. The cost of model tests is in the thousands of dollars rather than in the millions, and they can save you costly errors or they can reduce the cost of construction to produce the same result. It is presently, and has been for perhaps a quarter of a century, an almost universal practice, if a hydraulic power plant is going to be built or a navigable river dedged, to run a model test of it to ascertain the effects.

Other departments are concerned here. The Department of Transport has the responsibility for navigation and, on the other hand, the Department of Public Works is responsible for many shore installations, docks and facilities of this kind so both of those agencies are concerned with the St. Lawrence and they hope they will get the greatest benefit from their expenditure of dollars in the future by having these accurate model results to inform them of what will happen.

Mr. Penner: I am interested in the relationship between the National Research Council and major industrial groupings in Canada. In one of your answers, Dr. Schneider, I think

[*Interpretation*]

M. Penner: Je vous remercie. Je sais que les membres qui sont allés à cette visite ce matin, ont été impressionnés par le modèle de la voie maritime. C'est un projet de recherches qui impressionne beaucoup une personne qui entre. En réponse à la question de M. Thomson, vous aviez dit qu'un certain nombre de ministères étaient intéressés. Est-ce que vous pourriez dire au Comité quelles sont les plus importantes applications pratiques de ce modèle?

M. Tupper: Monsieur le président, le problème du fleuve Saint-Laurent est surtout un problème de niveau d'eau, de navires à plus fort tirant d'eau, de maintenir la voie maritime ouverte pendant de nombreux mois. La profondeur du courant et la rapidité des eaux dans la rivière changent avec les travaux que l'on y fait. Si l'on creuse un canal au centre du fleuve, le courant y sera plus rapide, et, par conséquent, le niveau de l'eau en amont baissera.

Si vous construisez un quai ou quelques estacades pour empêcher l'érosion des rives, cela va aussi entraîner des conséquences. Autrement dit, tout ce qui est fait au fleuve Saint-Laurent affecte le niveau de l'eau à Montréal et la nature du chenal pour les navires. Ces recherches nécessitent des millions de dollars lorsqu'il s'agit, par exemple, de faire des travaux sur une grande échelle, programmes de dragage, de construction de bassins, de ports et autres travaux de ce genre. Sur un modèle, les travaux coûtent plutôt des milliers de dollars au lieu de millions de dollars, ils peuvent vous éviter des erreurs coûteuses ou diminuer le coût de construction pour aboutir aux mêmes résultats. Et il est presque communément admis que lorsque l'on va faire un dragage d'une rivière navigable ou construire une centrale hydro-électrique, on fait d'abord des essais sur un modèle pour en déterminer les effets.

D'autres ministères sont intéressés. Le ministère des Transports s'occupe de la navigation, et le ministère des Travaux publics, d'autre part, s'occupe de nombreuses installations sur terre, des bassins et d'autres installations du genre, de sorte que ces deux agences se préoccupent du Saint-Laurent et ils espèrent tirer le meilleur profit possible de chaque dollar dépensé en ayant obtenu des résultats exacts sur un modèle pour se renseigner sur ce qui se produira.

M. Penner: Je m'intéresse au rapport qu'il y a entre le Conseil national de recherches et les principaux groupements industriels canadiens. Dans l'une de vos réponses, monsieur

[*Texte*]

you mentioned the pulp and paper industry just as an example, and I have a great interest in this particular industry—it represents a major industry in my constituency—and I am aware that the pulp and paper people have a research institute, I would be most interested in learning what kind of relationship or liaison, if any, exsist between the Pulp and Paper Research Institute and the National Research Council.

Dr. Schneider: Yes. The Pulp and Paper Research Institute is a separate agency and while there is no formal relationship we have a great deal of liaison with them. It is interesting that you should mention this industry because just yesterday and also this morning some of the people were discussing with a representative of one of our largest pulp and paper companies the possibility of the National Research Council taking on some special projects for them because we have some special expertise in this field which we could contribute to help them, and we are exploring this. This is the kind of relationship that is worked out. Of course, some of these industries have research laboratories of their own, but by and large with the resources at their disposal they have to concentrate on product development, immediate plant problems, and so on.

Where they need and want help is in the

• 1650

major problems which they can see coming up that are going to require longer range investigation. They simply do not have the manpower resources to do this themselves and they would like some help in this respect. Some very interesting areas are developing and we have some expertise in several of these areas and we can give them some help. We are now exploring some areas where we might take on special projects for them.

Mr. Penner: Could you say generally what areas these are? Do you mean in the plant, in the forests, or in what?

Dr. Schneider: These are perhaps more technical areas. I can mention one, which is the possibility of microwave drying.

As you know, in the microwave spectrum water has a very strong absorption. This means that if you use radio frequency energy at this frequency it is all absorbed by the

[*Interprétation*]

Schneider, je pense que vous avez parlé de l'industrie de la pâte et du papier, à titre d'exemple, et puisque je m'intéresse personnellement beaucoup à cette industrie, elle est une activité importante dans ma circonscription, et je sais que les sociétés de pâte et papier ont un institut de recherches, j'aimerais savoir quel genre de rapport ou de liaison il y a entre l'Institut de recherches sur la pâte et le papier et le Conseil national de recherches.

M. Schneider: L'Institut de recherches de la pâte et du papier est une organisation séparée et bien que nous n'ayons pas de rapports officiels, nous avons beaucoup de contacts. Il est intéressant que vous mentionniez cette industrie parce que précisément hier et ce matin certains fonctionnaires ont examiné avec un représentant d'une de nos industries de la pâte et du papier les possibilités pour le Conseil national de recherches d'entreprendre certains travaux de recherches pour eux parce que nous avons des experts en ce domaine qui pourraient les aider à résoudre leurs problèmes, et nous étudions la possibilité. Voilà donc le genre de contacts et de rapports que nous avons mis au point. Avec certaines industries, bien sûr, il se trouve qu'elles ont leur propre institut de recherches, mais, disons que dans l'ensemble, avec les ressources dont elles disposent, il faut qu'elles se concentrent sur leurs propres produits et qu'elles cherchent à résoudre les problèmes d'usine immédiats.

Où elles ont besoin d'aide et où elles la veulent est un des principaux problèmes qu'elles voient venir et qui nécessiteront des enquêtes à plus long terme. Elles n'ont pas la main-d'œuvre pour le faire et elles demandent de l'aide à ce sujet. Certains domaines très intéressants se développent, et nous avons des experts dans certains domaines, et nous pouvons les aider. Nous considérons présentement certains domaines où nous pourrions entreprendre des projets spéciaux pour eux.

M. Penner: Est-ce que vous pouvez nous dire quels sont ces domaines, en général? Est-ce que cela se passe dans l'usine, dans les forêts, ou à quel endroit?

M. Schneider: Il s'agit peut-être de domaines plus techniques. Je pourrais en citer un, par exemple, les possibilités de séchage par micro-ondes.

Comme vous le savez, dans le spectre des micro-ondes, l'eau a un taux d'absorption très fort; autrement dit, si vous utilisez des radiofréquences à cette fréquence-là, elles seront

[*Texte*]

research agencies of the several different departments of government, and would they state the situation as between the National Research Council and the new body, for which we voted $1 million or so the other day, the Science Council of Canada? I know there is a clear distinction between the functions of these groups, but is there not danger of duplication if there is not good co-ordination between them?

Mr. Schneider: Yes, Mr. Chairman; this is a very good point. I should have said something about this in my preliminary remarks.

We are very conscious of the danger of possible duplication with other departments,

• 1655

and so on, and before we start a project we make very sure that there will not be such duplication.

On this whole matter of co-ordination of research we keep in very close contact with all the departments and agencies and, in fact, there exist a number of co-ordinating committees in a number of areas such as, in agriculture and in aeronautics which, for example, includes the Department of Defence, ourselves, the Department of Transport, and so on. Therefore, there are built-in co-ordinating committees in a number of areas.

But, in any case, we have to be knowledgeable of what is going on elsewhere, and very often when we are asked to take on a project—somebody wants help, or somebody wants some work done—we look into it. It may very well be that NRC is not the appropriate agency to do it and that it would fit very nicely into programs or projects already being done in other government departments, so we would refer them there; we would not undertake it.

There is, in fact, quite a lot of contact between NRC researchers and the various departments of government that have research functions.

Relative to the Science Council, ours is pretty much an operating role and the implementation of programs, whereas the Science Council is concerned only with an advisory function. They are not concerned with operations for implementation of programs.

Of course, you cannot operate in this field without generating some policies of your own. There is still a big job of planning and working out policies in relation to these various programs; and we, of course, have to gener-

[*Interprétation*]

nous dire si c'est le cas du Conseil national de recherches et du Conseil des sciences, pour qui l'on a voté un million de dollars. Je sais qu'il y a des différences dans les attributions de chacun de ces groupes, mais est-ce qu'il n'y a pas de risque de chevauchement par manque de coordination?

M. Schneider: C'est une question intéressante, et j'aurais dû moi-même faire quelques commentaires à ce sujet dans mon exposé préliminaire.

Nous sommes très conscients des possibilités de double emploi avec d'autres ministères et, avant d'entreprendre un programme, nous nous assurons qu'il n'y aura pas double emploi. Quant à la coordination de la recherche, nous restons en contact très étroit avec toutes les agences et tous les ministères; il existe en fait un certain nombre de comités de coordination dans différents domaines, tels que l'agriculture, l'aéronautique, qui nécessitent la participation du ministère de la Défense, du ministère des Transports, etc. Par conséquent, il y a là un certain nombre de comités de coordination qui sont propres à certains domaines.

Mais il nous faut de toute façon rester au courant de ce qui se fait ailleurs; on nous demande souvent d'entreprendre un projet, pour aider quelqu'un, et nous examinons le problème. Il se peut que le Conseil national de recherches ne soit pas l'organisme approprié pour le faire et que cela serait plus conforme aux activités d'un autre ministère. C'est alors que l'on transmet la demande à ce ministère. En fait, il y a des contacts très étroits entre les chercheurs du Conseil national de recherches et les autres ministères qui effectuent des recherches.

En ce qui concerne le Conseil des sciences nous nous contentons de mettre en œuvre leurs programmes, tandis que le Conseil des sciences n'a qu'un rôle consultatif. Évidemment, il est difficile d'agir dans ces domaines lorsqu'on n'a pas de politique bien arrêtée. Il faut donc que nous établissions et planifiions des politiques correspondantes à ces divers programmes; il nous faut également de notre côté avoir nos propres politiques. Elles sont cependant différentes de plus spécifiques que celles que le Conseil des sciences pourrait

[*Text*]

ate our policies, too. But they are of a different kind and perhaps more specific than the kind that the Science Council will talk about.

The Science Council, at least as I understand it, by their terms of reference are concerned with trying to take a more detached and over-all look, trying to identify various areas of opportunity with the hope of indicating and identifying relative priorities so as to provide some sort of background framework for decision-making.

Mr. Mather: That is right. I understood the Science Council representatives to indicate that their role, as they saw it, was to be in touch with different research agencies. They do not run any laboratories themselves, as they said.

However, the National Research Council is also in touch with various other agencies, so you are probably also collecting information and correlating it.

Not now, but perhaps in the future, might there be some danger of duplication, or a lack of organization in this field? It strikes me from what you have said of the work of the National Research Council, and of its being in touch particularly with other research agencies in the country, that instead of having a separate agency such as the Science Council of Canada you might have an extension of the National Research Council which possibly would be more concerned with co-ordinating than with laboratory work.

Mr. Schneider: Yes; I do not think the co-ordination of research is really a function for the Science Council. I think this is an operational function which would more properly belong within operating organizations within the government.

I might also point out that at the moment I am a member of the Science Council, so that we do have some linkage. We know what they are deliberating on and discussing and, hopefully, having this input will help us in some of our decision-making, and so on.

Mr. Mather: Do you know whether other countries have a sort of similar set up? In the United States do they have a sort of three-level research science council, national research body?

Mr. Schneider: The United States, of course, is very different. It is a very large country and they have evolved what is often called a pluralistic approach. In other words,

• 1700

there are many agencies involved but they do not attempt to put everything in one pot and

[*Interpretation*]

avoir. Le Conseil des sciences, me semble-t-il, s'efforce de dégager des points de vue plus généraux et plus détachés, en identifiant les priorités relatives, de manière à fonder, en quelque sorte, les décisions.

M. Mather: C'est exact. Les représentants du Conseil des sciences semblaient croire que leur rôle était d'être en contact avec d'autres organismes de recherches, du fait qu'ils n'ont pas de laboratoires propres. Cependant, le Conseil national de recherches est lui-même en contact avec des organismes; il compile des renseignements et les analyse, et je me demande s'il n'y a pas là risque de chevauchement ou de manque d'organisation. D'après ce que vous avez dit, il me semble qu'au lieu de faire des travaux et d'être en même temps en contact avec d'autres organismes, que plutôt que d'avoir un organisme distinct comme le Conseil des sciences, on pourrait avoir une annexe du Conseil national de recherches qui s'occuperait de coordination plutôt que de travail en laboratoire.

M. Schneider: Oui, je pense que la coordination de la recherche n'est pas une responsabilité du Conseil des sciences; il s'agit plutôt d'une responsabilité des organismes d'exploitation du gouvernement. Je suis actuellement membre du Conseil des sciences, et par conséquent nous avons des liens avec eux. Nous sommes au courant de leurs discussions, et ces renseignements peuvent nous aider à prendre certaines décisions.

M. Mather: Savez-vous s'il existe une organisation comparable dans d'autres pays? Aux États-Unis, existe-t-il un organisme national de recherche scientifique à trois paliers?

M. Schneider: Les États-Unis, bien sûr, sont très différents. C'est un pays très vaste et ils ont une organisation que l'on pourrait qualifier de pluraliste, en ce sens qu'il y a tellement d'organismes, qu'on ne cherche pas à les structurer en une pyramide où toutes les décisions viennent d'en haut. Les centres de décision sont multiples. Ce n'est que par le

[*Texte*]

work this into a pyramid and have all the decisions made at the top. There are many decision-making centres. It is only through the budgeting process that they try to pull some of these together.

I do not think they are very happy with the situation, or that any country is very happy with it; nor do I think any country has yet found a good solution for this. It is a complex problem and, you see, it goes into so many directions. For example virtually every department now is doing some research. For example, there is a lot of talk about a department of science. This just would not appear to be workable unless you are willing to regiment everything and I do not think this is necessarily the best way to apply science in all these areas.

Mr. Mather: It may be that I am more conscious of this need to avoid duplication after having heard testimony given yesterday when the estimates of the Supply and Services Department were before us. We were told that they have already saved over $1 million by co-ordinating the activities of two or three departments of government or agencies—and they hope to save more.

I have one last question, Mr. Chairman. I think that the National Research Council has done a great deal of good work and no doubt a lot of the projects are tabulated in this report that you have made to the Senate Committee. But, as a former newspaper man, I doubt if the Canadian public realizes the savings or the worth of the efforts of the Council. I think if you came up with half a dozen good stories a year as to specifically what had been achieved that this would be very helpful in regard to your work and, also, there would be a more knowledgeable public. I just make that recommendation, in passing.

Dr. Schneider: Thank you for your comment, I entirely agree with you. I think this is one area where we have not made enough effort to make this information available. We are attempting to do more in this direction. Mr. Montpetit has joined us in the Information Section and we hope to do a lot more of this. I agree with you, it is very necessary.

Mr. Mather: Thank you.

Mr. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Has the Research Council done any work in the prevention of or cure for radiation. I am aware of the problem in respect of prevention but have you actually done any research on a

[*Interprétation*]

processus d'octroi des crédits qu'ils peuvent les centraliser.

Je ne pense pas que la solution soit très satisfaisante, ni qu'aucun pays n'ait la solution idéale. C'est un problème très complexe qui se ramifie en diverses directions. Il y a tellement de travaux de recherches en cours dans différents ministères, par exemple. On parle beaucoup de la création d'un ministère des sciences, ce qui, à mon avis, n'est pas tout à fait possible, à moins que l'on soit disposé à tout enrégimenter et je ne crois pas que ce soit la meilleure façon d'appliquer les sciences dans tous ces domaines.

M. Mather: Il est possible que je sois plus soucieux d'éviter les doubles emplois après avoir entendu le témoignage, hier, des responsables du ministère des Approvisionnements et des Services au sujet de leurs prévisions. Ils nous ont dit qu'ils avaient déjà épargné plus de $1 million grâce à la coordination de toutes les activités de deux ou trois ministères ou organismes.

Une dernière question, monsieur le président, si vous me le permettez. Je pense que le Conseil national de recherches a fait beaucoup de bon travail et je ne doute pas que bon nombre de ces projets sont décrits dans le rapport qui a été présenté au Comité du Sénat. Mais, en temps qu'ancien journaliste, je me demande si le public se rend compte véritablement des épargnes et de la valeur des travaux du Conseil. Je pense que si, chaque année, vous publiez quelques bons articles sur la nature de vos travaux, et vos réalisations, cela serait certainement très utile pour vos travaux et le public serait mieux renseigné à votre sujet. C'est simplement une recommandation que je fais en passant.

M. Schneider: Merci beaucoup de vos commentaires, je suis parfaitement d'accord avec vous. Je pense que c'est un des domaines où nous n'avons pas fait suffisamment d'efforts pour diffuser ces renseignements. Nous faisons des efforts dans ce sens. M. Montpetit est venu travailler avec nous au service de l'information et nous espérons en tirer grand parti. Je reconnais que c'est nécessaire.

M. Mather: Merci.

M. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Monsieur le président, je me demande si le Conseil national de recherches s'est efforcé de trouver un moyen pour empêcher ou guérir les effets de l'irradiation? Je sais qu'il y a un

[*Text*]

possible cure for people who have suffered from radiation?

Dr. Schneider: This is a very difficult area because of course if you get a very large dose all your cells are broken down and it is probably too late to do very much about it anyway. But with smaller doses there may be some hope. A group in Dr. Butler's laboratory which you visited this morning are on a line of research that looks rather promising. They have discovered that the damage that follows exposure to radiation is related to the calcium metabolism in the body, so by shifting the equilibrium of this by the injection of a lot of calcium compounds—I think at one point they used calcium chloride with rats—it made a surprising difference. I think this is a very important clue and it may prove beneficial. Again, as I say, this would apply only to less than lethal doses; if you had a lethal dose I doubt whether anything would save you. However, there may be some hope of progress in this direction.

Mr. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): I want to comment on virus pneumonia in pigs. You said you were conducting an absolutely germ-free type of experiment in rats. I understood a similar experiment was conducted with pigs a while ago but that this broke down and the pigs developed virus pneumonia anyway. I know this is a technical problem but I was just wondering if these experiments were designed to in effect produce a virus-free pig. Do you think that it is

• 1705

really practically possible to have a completely germ-free disease-free, virus-free animal?

Dr. Schneider: Of course, such animals are very vulnerable. There are a number of laboratories in various countries doing these kind of experiments in a complete antiseptic environment. Of course, the minute you take them out of that environment they become extremely vulnerable. In other words, they have to build up an immunity. The whole immune reaction in the body is also a very big and important field. How does the body protect itself against viruses, against bacteria and so on? One way of approaching it of course is to start with an animal that has no antibodies within its system, no immunity of any kind and to see how it reacts to specific viruses and how the immunity is built up?

[*Interpretation*]

problème pour l'empêcher, mais avez-vous réellement songé à un remède possible pour ceux qui ont souffert de l'irradiation? Avez-vous fait des recherches?

M. Schneider: C'est un domaine très difficile parce que si les gens reçoivent une dose assez forte d'irradiation, leurs cellules s'effondrent complètement et il est probablement trop tard pour faire quoi que ce soit. Tandis que pour de plus petites doses il y a de l'espoir. Un groupe travaille dans le laboratoire du docteur Butler, que vous avez visité ce matin, à des recherches qui semblent promettre beaucoup. Ils ont découvert que les effets de l'irradiation se rapportent au métabolisme du calcium dans le corps humain, de sorte qu'en déplaçant l'équilibre, du calcium, par exemple, en injectant une forte quantité de composés du calcium, je crois qu'ils ont utilisé de la chlorure de calcium sur des rats, ce qui a fait une différence énorme. Je crois que c'est là un indice assez important, il se peut que ce soit bénéfique. Je répète que nous parlons maintenant de doses qui ne sont pas fatales, car si elles étaient fatales, il n'y aurait peut-être pas d'espoir de vous sauver. Toutefois, il est possible qu'on puisse faire des progrès dans ce sens.

M. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Un commentaire à propos de la pneumonie à virus chez les porcs. Vous avez dit que vous faites des expériences dans un milieu absolument désinfecté avec les rats. Il me semble qu'on a fait quelque chose semblable avec des porcs dernièrement, mais que l'expérience a été ratée et que les porcs ont attrapé la pneumonie à virus. Je sais que c'est un problème d'ordre technique, mais je me demande si le but de cette expérience n'était pas de produire un porc sans virus. Est-ce que vous croyez que ce serait possible d'avoir un animal qui ne porte aucun virus, aucune maladie.

M. Schneider: Vous savez que les animaux sont vulnérables. Bon nombre de laboratoires dans divers pays qui font des expériences de ce genre dans un milieu tout à fait antiseptiques. Mais aussitôt qu'on les sort du milieu, ils sont extrêmement vulnérables. En d'autres mots, ils doivent se constituer une certaine immunité. La réaction de l'immunité dans le corps est un autre domaine très vaste. Comment le corps, par exemple, se protège-t-il contre les virus? Une façon d'aborder la question c'est en prenant un animal qui n'a pas d'anti-corps, aucune immunité d'aucune sorte et voir comment il réagit à différents virus et se constitue une immunité.

[*Texte*]

An hon Member: May be it is ultra vires.

Mr. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): I am going to risk one more question, even if it is ultra vires.

Students or professors that receive grants have told me that they can only earn approximately $500—I have forgotten the exact details now—over and above the grant they receive from the Canada Council. Are there any restrictions in this resepct now? This was a while ago that I was son informed.

Dr. Schneider: You are referring to a student on a scholarship.

Mr. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Yes.

Dr. Schneider: You see, this often arises when the university asks students on scholarship to give some assistance—some teaching, demonstrating and so on and perhaps they might assist one afternoon a week as a lab demonstrator. I think they are permitted 100 hours and there is a limited amount of money that can be paid for these services. However, we would not like to see these scholarships greatly supplemented. This is not the purpose of these scholarships; they are to enable the student to continue his higher education. But at the same time a certain amount of teaching experience might be good for him too if some day he hopes to be a university professor.

Mr. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Thank you very much.

Mr. Penner: Mr. Chairman, I have just two inquiries on Vote 15. I noted with interest the comments by Mr. Mather about more people being aware of what important work the National Research Council does. I notice in Vote 15 that the amount of money expended for information is increasing in the current fiscal year. This morning I learned a few things about what you are doing in this regard but I would appreciate having a little more complete picture of your Information Services.

Dr. Schneider: I would like to ask Dr. Tupper to reply.

Dr. Tupper: Mr. Chairman, these standard objects of expenditure are an historic way of classifying expenditure which has been used by the government services for many years and there is a high degre of arbitrariness here. In point of fact, the major increase in expenditure under Information is additional money put into public scientific information in the eight journals of scientific research to

[*Interprétation*]

Une voix: On essaie peut-être d'aller trop loin.

M. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Une autre question, même si elle est au-delà des pouvoirs. Les étudiants et les professeurs qui reçoivent des subventions m'ont dit qu'ils peuvent gagner seulement $500 de plus que la subvention que leur accordait le Conseil des Arts. J'ai oublié les détails. Est-ce qu'il existe toujours des restrictions de ce genre? C'est une situation qui existait il y a quelque temps.

M. Schneider: Vous parlez d'un étudiant à qui nous avons accordé une bourse.

M. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Oui.

M. Schneider: Cela se produit souvent lorsque l'université demande aux étudiants qui reçoivent des bourses d'aider, de donner des cours, des démonstrations, et ainsi de suite, ou peut-être de travailler un après-midi par semaine à faire des démonstrations dans les laboratoires. Je crois qu'on leur permet de travailler jusqu'à cent heures ainsi et on leur verse un montant assez limité pour ces services. Nous ne voudrions pas que ces travaux servent tellement d'appoint à leur bourse. Ce n'est pas le but des bourses qui est de permettre à l'étudiant de poursuivre ses études. Par ailleurs, il est bon pour lui d'avoir une certaine expérience de l'enseignement, s'il espère un jour devenir professeur d'université.

M. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Merci.

M. Penner: Monsieur le président, j'ai deux questions à poser au sujet du crédit 15. J'ai noté les commentaires de Monsieur Mather à l'effet que les gens sont plus au courant des travaux importants du Conseil national de recherches. Je remarque qu'au crédit 15 les sommes d'argent consacrées à l'information ont augmenté pour l'année financière en cours. Ce matin j'ai moi-même appris un peu ce que vous faites en ce sens, mais j'aimerais avoir une meilleur idée de vos services d'information.

M. Schneider: J'aimerais que Monsieur Tupper réponde à votre question.

M. Tupper: Monsieur le président, ces postes habituels des dépenses sont une façon conventionnelle de décrire les dépenses auquelle les services du gouvernement ont recours depuis des années et elle est très arbitraire. La plus forte augmentation des dépenses au titre de l'information est les sommes supplémentaires consacrées à la diffusion de renseignements d'ordre scientifique grâce aux huit

[*Text*]

which Dr. Scheneider alluded. Our own Information Services, which Mr. Montpetit presides over, gets a very negligible amount, if any, of that additional support at the present time. Information here covers a much, much broader activity than what you might call our P.R. type of information service. Information under (3) is explanatory information over and above the salaries involved. The salaries go in the salary vote. This is money spent in the information field. Would you like to supplement my remarks, Dr. Osberg?

Dr. J. L. Osberg (Chief Financial Adviser, National Research Council): The main increase here is caused by publishing the *National Building Code*. This is a new item which is published every five years and that will cause an increase of about $100,000. Unfortunately, we have under budgeted for journals in 1968-69, so the figure you see there was too low. We have had to make up over the two-year period, essentially, almost a million dollars to bring the publication of the journal back in line close to cost. The major increase you see here is caused by these two items.

Mr. Penner: I understand that there is a growing demand for the material put out by Building Research. I think it was in one of the periodicals called *The Digest*. Would part of the increase be because of the increased demand for this material?

Dr. Schneider: I believe that is not as large an item as the two that Dr. Osberg mentioned before, the increased cost in the research journals. This is activity created outisde. This is not the National Research Council. Throughout Canada research papers have to be published and this has been growing at a very rapid rate and, in fact, we estimate that the increment for this year is $.5 million, that is the difference in the cost between publishing these eight research journals last year and this year.

That is an increase in one year which is a very high escalation. Of course, these are very high printing costs because technical and scientific printing is a specialized operation requiring all sorts of formulae and Greek letters, photographs, charts and diagrams. This is a rather costly type of printing.

Mr. Penner: My final question, Mr. Chairman, under Vote 15 is in reference to Rentals. I am just curious about what items would be included there.

[*Interpretation*]

journaux de recherches scientifiques dont a parlé le docteur Schneider. Notre propre service d'information, précidé par monsieur Montpetit, reçoit un montant très négligeable de cette somme supplémentaire, à l'heure actuelle. L'information ici a trait à une activité beaucoup plus vaste que les relations publiques. L'information au poste 3 représente l'information supplémentaire, en plus des salaires versés. Les salaires sont portés au crédit des traitements. Ce sont les sommes consacrées à l'information. Voudriez-vous ajouter quelque chose, monsieur Osberg?

M. J. L. Osberg (Conseiller financier principal, Conseil national de recherches): La plus forte augmentation découle de la publication du *Code national de la construction*. C'est un nouveau poste et il sera publié tous les cinq ans entraînant une augmentation d'environ $100,000. Malheureusement nous n'avons pas prévu assez d'argent pour les journaux en 1968-1969, et le chiffre indiqué est trop faible. Alors, il nous a fallu, pendant cette période de deux ans, investir près d'un million de dollars pour ramener l'exploitation du journal au seuil de la rentabilité. La hausse importante que vous voyez ici est imputable à ces deux postes.

M. Penner: Je crois savoir qu'il y a une demande croissante pour les matériaux nouveaux mis au point par la Section de la recherche en construction. Je crois que j'ai vu cela dans un journal appelé le *Digest*. Est-ce que l'augmentation des dépenses serait un peu causée par cela?

M. Schneider: Je ne crois pas que c'est là un poste aussi important que les deux autres dont on a parlé M. Osberg, c'est-à-dire l'augmentation des coûts pour les journaux de recherche. Ce sont des activités qui sont en quelque sorte étrangères au Conseil national des recherches. Ces documents sur la recherche doivent être publiés à travers le Canada et le coût de cette publication augmente rapidement: nous estimons que l'augmentation sera de l'ordre d'un demi-million de dollars, entre cette année et l'année dernière.

C'est une augmentation pour une année seulement et je reconnais que c'est assez considérable. Il faut reconnaître que les coûts d'imprimerie sont très élevés parce que l'impression de textes scientifiques et techniques est un travail très spécialisé à cause des formules, des photographies, des diagrammes et tableaux.

M. Penner: Ma dernière question est en rapport avec le crédit 15 où on fait mention de frais de location. Je me demande de quoi il est question à ce poste de location.

[*Texte*]

Dr. Osberg: Under Rentals are rentals having to do with space at Lake Traverse. This is the Algonquin radio astronomy laboratory.

Dr. Tupper: It probably also covers computer rentals.

Dr. Osberg: I beg your pardon; I have the wrong category. Rental of computers is the main item—rental of computers and related equipment, rental of office machinery and equipment, rental of buildings—these are the main things. Rental of computers is the large one.

Mr. Penner: Are all the computers used by the National Research Council on a rental basis?

Dr. Tupper: No, we purchase mot of our computers because these are small computers intimately linked to an experiment that will, in fact, be used for that experiment beyond the period where it is economic to rent. Our main computation centre which provides a computing service to all of our scientists has much larger and more expensive equipment, such as the type you saw this morning in the hydraulics laboratory, and the major portion of that equipment is, in fact, rented.

Mr. Penner: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

The Chairman: Mr. McCutcheon?

Mr. McCutcheon: I was intrigued by Mr. Thomson's reference to research in connection with, I presumed, radioactivity. My question has to do more with the residue of pesticides and herbicides that we are reading a lot about lately. As a matter of fact, just recently fish taken from Lake Huron were reported to have a high level. Are you doing anything in this field?

• 1715

Dr. Schneider: We do not have an active program in this field because this is one of the areas where the Department of Agriculture is doing a great deal. If we do research in this area very likely it will be in areas where it would complement their program. There is, in fact, a small program under consideration. This is now being planned and exactly what form this will take I am not yet sure.

I might mention one thing the Council is considering. The Council has had an associate committee structure for many, many years which brings together experts in a number of areas—they come from industry, university, government departments—to deal with par-

[*Interprétation*]

M. Osberg: A ce poste, nous avons inclus les frais de location au lac Traverse. Il s'agit du laboratoire de radioastronomie Algonquin.

M. Tupper: Ce poste comprend aussi probablement des frais de location d'ordinateurs.

M. Osberg: Je m'excuse; j'avais la mauvaise catégorie. Le principal poste est au titre de la location des ordinateurs, plus précisément les frais de location d'ordinateurs et des appareils qui s'y rattachent, d'appareils et d'accessoires de bureau de même que la location des locaux. Mais c'est la location des ordinateurs qui représente la plus grande part.

M. Penner: Est-ce que les ordinateurs utilisés par le Conseil national de recherches sont tous loués?

M. Tupper: Non, nous les achetons habituellement, parce que ce sont de petits ordinateurs qui se rattachent à une expérience, et qu'il ne serait pas économique de les louer. Notre Centre de calcul, qui assure les services d'ordinateurs à tous nos scientifiques a un matériel beaucoup plus dispendieux, du genre que vous avez vu ce matin dans le laboratoire d'hydraulique. La plus grande partie de ce matériel est loué.

M. Penner: Merci, monsieur le président.

Le président: Monsieur McCutcheon.

M. McCutcheon: La référence de M. Thomson à propos de la recherche concernant les radiations m'a grandement intéressé. Ma question porte davantage sur les résidus de pesticides et d'herbicides dont nous entendons beaucoup parler actuellement. Tout dernièrement, on a rapporté que des poissons pris dans le lac Huron étaient contaminés. Faites-vous quelque recherche dans ce domaine?

M. Schneider: Nous n'avons pas un programme élaboré dans ce domaine parce que le ministère de l'Agriculture s'en occupe déjà activement. Si nous effectuons de la recherche dans ce domaine, ce sera surtout pour suppléer à leurs propres programmes. De fait, nous songeons quand même à établir un programme peu développé. Je ne sais pas encore toutefois quelle sera son orientation.

Je pourrais peut-être mentionner que le Conseil a un projet à l'étude. Depuis de nombreuses années, le Conseil a mis sur pied un comité associé qui réunit les spécialistes de différents secteurs, universités, industrie, gouvernement, pour étudier des problèmes

[*Text*]

ticular national problems. This has been a very useful mechanism both to co-ordinate research and to inform each other what research is being done, what research should be done and also, mostly on the technical aspects, to hold special meetings and symposia to disseminate information.

At the present time as you know in the pollution area which is, of course, becoming a very big problem, a number of government departments that have an interest are carrying on some activity. We feel what is needed now is to bring all these together and we are now considering the setting up of an over-all committee which will encompass everything and call it "Environmental Pollution", because you soon find out that if you get into water pollution you cannot consider this in isolation.

Air pollution and water pollution interact, land pollution comes into this as well and, of course, the pesticide residues and so on, if you think of this as part of land pollution, is also part of the picture. This committee, of course, would probably still have to have some sub-committees, but we feel it is important at this stage to bring all these areas together in one committee so that they can co-ordinate the work, identify the areas where we need to do more work but have not enough information, and also consider the possibility of setting up a central documentation centre. This is something that was proposed a couple of years ago, but so far this has not been done. Of course, a lot of work is being done in pollution in Canada and certainly in a lot of other countries as well, and I think we need to draw together all this information and make it freely available.

Mr. McCutcheon: Do you consider, sir, that the question I raised, pesticide the herbicide residue, is a very serious problem or is it one that we can cope with as we normally do just as it comes along?

Dr. Schneider: I am not sure that I could give you an exact answer about just how serious it is. Perhaps Dr. Cook who is a biologist can help us here.

Dr. Cook: Mr. Chairman, I feel there are two levels. If you are thinking of it as a hazard to human health I think that is still a long way off, but these pesticides, in passing through various species from the worm to the bird, and so forth, do concentrate things and I think it can have an effect on a good deal of our wildlife and the biotic system generally

[*Interpretation*]

d'ordre national. C'est un mécanisme qui a été très utile pour coordonner la recherche, pour se renseigner les uns les autres sur les recherches qui sont entreprises et sur les projets de recherche et aussi, d'un point de vue plus technique, pour convoquer des réunions, des colloques en vue de faire connaître les résultats des recherches.

A l'heure actuelle, comme vous le savez sans doute, plusieurs ministères gouvernementaux poursuivent des recherches dans le domaine de la pollution, domaine qui prend de plus en plus d'importance. Nous croyons qu'il faut coordonner toutes ces activités et nous songeons à établir un comité général qui va englober toutes ces recherches; nous voulons l'appeler «Comité du milieu ambiant», parce qu'il est impossible de s'occuper de la pollution de l'eau sans étudier les autres formes de pollution.

La pollution de l'air et la pollution de l'eau ont des interactions réciproques, la pollution du sol entre aussi en ligne de compte; de même, les éléments résiduels des pesticides polluent les terres et constituent un autre élément de l'ensemble. Le comité dont je vous parle devra avoir des sous-comités, mais il importe de rassembler tous ces groupes dans un comité pour pouvoir coordonner leur travail, identifier les secteurs où il faut travailler où nous n'avons pas assez de renseignements et étudier la possibilité d'établir un centre de documentation. Voilà quelque chose qui a été proposé il y a quelques années déjà, mais, jusqu'ici, rien n'a été fait. Bien entendu, il y a beaucoup de travail qui se fait sur la pollution au Canada et dans d'autres pays et je crois qu'il faut rassembler toutes ces données et les mettre à la disposition de tous.

M. McCutcheon: Croyez-vous, monsieur, que le problème que je viens de soulever à propos des pesticides et des herbicides représente un danger grave ou si c'est un problème que nous aborderons le moment venu?

M. Schneider: Je ne puis vous répondre avec exactitude à cette question, mais M. Cook, qui est biologiste, pourra peut-être vous donner plus de détails.

M. Cook: Monsieur le président, je crois qu'il y a deux niveaux. Si vous songez à une menace à la santé humaine, je crois que cette éventualité est assez éloignée, mais ces pesticides, en passant par les différentes espèces animales, du ver jusqu'à l'oiseau, et ainsi de suite, peuvent se concentrer et il se peut qu'ils puissent agir sur notre faune sauvage et

[*Texte*]

long before it becomes anything of a human hazard.

Therefore, I think it is part of this problem of the deterioration of our environment, but so far as human health is concerned, with regulatory agencies, and what not, to catch perhaps the odd accident I think it presents no immediate hazard to human life.

Of course, this has set off lines of research in an effort to avoid the use of these residual pesticides. Can one control insects through biological phenomena rather than having to poison them with chemicals? I think it is axiomatic that they will have to remain as long as the world food supply is short. Perhaps we have an excess of wheat at the moment, but as long as this outlook is ahead of us pesticides or some control of pests will have to be used.

Mr. McCutcheon: Thank you, very much. May I ask a final question? Under Vote 30, "Assistance towards Research in Industry" is an item of $6.8 million "less estimated transfer from revenue". Will you explain that?

• 1720

Dr. Schneider: Yes; we have a revenue fund which derives from charges made for services rendered and tests made for industries, other departments, and so on. In spending this revenue, while we have authority to spend it, we cannot spend it in areas that will generate need for more expenditures. For example, if we start a new research program, then the next year we are going to require a lot more money. This would be against the terms of reference in this spending. And so since we identify industrial research assistance as a priority program, we are proposing next year to put in $500,000 from this revenue fund to increase this particular item.

Mr. McCutcheon: This is not a case of you doing $6.8 million worth of research for industry and they pay you back $500,000?

Dr. Schneider: No. This $6.8 million will in fact be paid out to industry, as I mentioned before, on a shared-cost basis. They put up 50 per cent, roughly, and we put up 50 per cent.

Mr. McCutcheon: Thank you.

[*Interprétation*]

sur le milieu biologique en général bien avant que cela devienne une menace pour la santé humaine.

Je crois donc que c'est un autre facteur de détérioration de notre milieu, mais, pour ce qui est de la santé humaine, avec les organismes de réglementation qui peuvent empêcher les accidents toujours possibles, je ne crois pas qu'il y ait de menaces immédiates à la santé humaine.

Bien sûr, ce problème a provoqué des recherches visant à écarter la menace que représentent ces éléments résiduels des pesticides. Peut-on, par exemple, réduire le nombre des insectes par des procédés biologiques plutôt qu'en utilisant des produits chimiques? Aussi longtemps qu'il y aura pénurie de denrées alimentaires à l'échelle mondiale, il faudra continuer à utiliser les insecticides. Il est vrai que nous avons à l'heure actuelle un surplus de blé, mais aussi longtemps que les approvisionnements mondiaux seront insuffisants, il faudra recourir à des pesticides ou à d'autres moyens du genre.

M. McCutcheon: J'ai une dernière question. Au crédit 30, «Aide aux recherches industrielles,» nous avons $6,800,000 moins «les recettes prévues.» Pouvez-vous nous expliquer ce point?

M. Schneider: Nous avons un fonds de recettes qui provient des sommes perçues pour services rendus et pour les essais effectués pour le compte d'industries privées, d'autres ministères, etc. Nous pouvons dépenser ces sommes, nous ne pouvons le faire dans les secteurs qui créent des besoins pour plus de dépenses. Par exemple, si nous engageons un nouveau programme de recherches, alors l'année suivante il nous faudra beaucoup d'argent. Cela irait à l'encontre du mandat défini dans cette dépense. Puisque nous considérons l'aide à la recherche comme programme prioritaire, nous nous proposons d'ajouter 500,000 dollars pour augmenter ce poste, l'année prochaine.

M. McCutcheon: Ce n'est pas une question de faire des recherches d'une valeur de 6.8 millions sous l'industrie et elle vous rembourse 500 mille dollars.

M. Schneider: Non. Ces $6.8 millions seront en fait payés à l'industrie, comme je l'ai déjà mentionné, sur une base de frais partagés. Ils fournissent 50 p. 100, environ, et nous fournissons 50 p. 100.

M. McCutcheon: Je vous remercie beaucoup.

[*Text*]

The Chairman: Thank you, gentlemen. Do you think that at the next meeting we should call back the same witnesses, or should we carry on to other votes?

Mr. McCutcheon: Mr. Chairman, if I might suggest, these are busy and important people. They have been excellent witnesses here today, and I think we could carry on and not ask them to come back.

The Chairman: Do the members agree?

• 1722

Agreed.

We will consider that the consideration of Votes 15, 20, 25, 30—National Research Council—is over, but as we do not have a quorum, of course we cannot call the various votes.

Next Tuesday afternoon at 3:30 p.m. we will try to get organized to consider Canadian Arsenals Limited, Votes 30 and 35; Canadian Commercial Corporation, Vote 40; maybe the Public Service Staff Relations Board, Vote 30; and maybe another one, too. At any rate, you will be notified of the items we are going to discuss. I wish to thank you very much, and this meeting stands adjourned.

[*Interpretation*]

Le président: Merci, messieurs. Croyez-vous qu'à la prochaine séance il faudra faire comparaître les mêmes témoins ou devrons-nous passer à d'autres crédits?

M. McCutcheon: Monsieur le président, je crois que nous avons à faire à des personnes importantes qui sont très occupés. Ils ont été d'excellents témoins et je crois que nous pourrions poursuivre et ne pas les déranger à nouveau.

Le président: Est-ce que les membres sont d'accord?

Accepté.

Nous jugerons que l'étude des crédits 15, 20, 25 et 30 du Conseil national de recherches est terminée, mais comme nous n'avons pas le quorum nous ne pouvons voter les divers crédits.

Mardi prochain, à trois heures trente de l'après-midi, nous tenterons d'étudier les crédits 30 et 35, les Arsenaux canadiens Limités, le crédit 40, de la Corporation commerciale canadienne, et peut-être le crédit 30 de la Commission des relations de travail dans la Fonction publique, et peut-être un autre. En tout cas, vous serez avisés des postes que nous allons étudier. Je vous remercie beaucoup et la séance est levée.

APPENDIX "C"

HOUSE OF COMMONS

MEMORANDUM

Ottawa, April 23, 1969.

TO: Mr. Delphis Levesque Committee Officer.

FROM: Director of Administration

SUBJECT: Committee on Miscellaneous Estimates.

As requested yesterday, the salaries paid to the employees in the offices of the Government and Opposition Whips are as follows:

Executive Assistant, Chief Government Whip — $7450-8160.
Secretary, Chief Government Whip — $5950-6660.
Confidential Messenger, Chief Government Whip — $5040 - 5580.
Stenographer 2, Chief Government Whip — $4220-4800.
Executive Assistant, Chief Opposition Whip — $7450-8160.
Secretary, Chief Opposition Whip — $5950-6660.
Confidential Messenger, Chief Opposition Whip — $5040-5580.
Secretary, New Democratic Party Whip — $5950-6660.
Secretary, *Ralliement Créditiste* Whip — $5950-6660.

Should you require other informations please inform me.

(*signed*) C. M. de Salaberry,
Director of Administration.

APPENDICE «C»

CHAMBRE DES COMMUNES

MEMORANDUM

A: Monsieur Delphis Lévesque,

Agent de comité.

Ottawa, le 23 avril 1969.

De: Directeur de l'administration
Sujet: Comité des Prévisions budgétaires en général.

Tel que demandé hier, les salaires payés aux employés des bureaux des Whips du Gouvernement et de l'Opposition sont les suivants:

Adjoint exécutif, Whip du Gouvernement — $7450-8160.
Secrétaire, Whip du Gouvernement — $5950-6660.
Messager de confiance, Whip du Gouvernement — $5040-5580.
Sténographe 2, Whip du Gouvernement — $4220-4800.
Adjoint exécutif, Whip de l'Opposition — $7450-8160.
Secrétaire, Whip de l'Opposition — $5950-6660.
Messager de confiance, Whip de l'Opposition—$5040-5580.
Secrétaire, Whip du Nouveau Parti Démocratique—$5950-6660.
Secrétaire, Whip du Ralliement Créditiste — $5950-6660.

Veuillez m'aviser si vous avez besoin d'autres renseignements.

C. M. de Salaberry,
Directeur de l'administration.

APPENDIX "D"

NATIONAL RESEARCH COUNCIL OF CANADA

SUPPORT OF RESEARCH AT UNIVERSITIES

1968–69

	Operating		Major Equipment	General Research	Computer Facilities	Negotiated Major	Total
	No.	$000	$000	$000	$000	$000	$000
Acadia	19	71.9	24.5	25.0	19.5		140.9
Alberta	256	2,177.2	221.7	138.5	248.9	350.0	3,136.3
Bishop's	12	45.5		2.5	8.3		56.3
Brandon	4	14.0		1.5			15.5
British Columbia	329	3,115.5	596.7	191.0	347.7	225.0	4,475.9
Brock	19	104.4	20.0	23.0	19.2		166.6
Calgary	148	1,074.3	109.8	56.0	94.8	240.0	1,574.9
Carleton	76	499.3	26.5	28.0	56.7	205.0	815.5
Dalhousie	77	478.1	72.9	41.0	72.6	110.0	774.6
École Polytechnique	52	304.9	53.2	20.5			378.6
Guelph	148	861.0	211.6	41.0	74.0		1,187.6
Inst Microbiol (Montreal)	1	6.9					6.9
Jean de Brébeuf	1	0.9					0.9
Lakehead	22	103.7	30.3	25.0			159.0
Laurentian	16	63.0	12.8	25.0			100.8
Laval	139	1,142.1	287.2	78.5	169.0	202.0	1,878.8
Lethbridge	8	30.7					30.7
Loyola	14	42.1	17.4	2.5	18.1		80.1
Manitoba	204	1,525.5	237.5	93.5	188.6		2,045.1
McGill	284	2,453.7	531.7	161.0	283.6	380.0	3,810.0
McMaster	171	1,819.2	219.9	116.0	210.4	932.0	3,297.5
Memorial	53	336.3	39.2	25.0	44.7	155.0	600.2
Moncton	11	48.5		25.0	15.6		89.1
Montreal	128	996.5	185.5	90.0	180.6	600.0	2,052.6
Mount Allison	15	77.5	12.8	25.0	18.3		133.6
Mount St Vincent							
New Brunswick	78	547.2	68.0	35.5	65.8		716.5
Notre Dame	5	15.6		1.0			16.6
N.S. Agric College	2	3.5					3.5
N.S. Tech College	33	238.2		25.0	23.4		286.6
Ottawa	73	686.9	55.6	45.0	90.6		878.1
Prince of Wales	5	19.2	8.4	1.0			28.6
Queen's	170	1,195.4	397.1	71.0	133.2	164.0	1,960.7
St Dunstan's	2	7.6					7.6
St Francis Xavier	19	99.1	11.7	25.0	24.5		160.3
St John's	1	4.9					4.9
St Mary's	7	12.3		25.0			37.3
Saskatchewan—Regina	41	218.6	39.7	25.0	48.0		331.3
Saskatchewan—Saskatoon	160	1,171.6	146.2	82.5	190.2	100.0	1,690.5
Selkirk	2	5.9					5.9
Sherbrooke	64	317.1	59.5	25.0	98.3		499.9
Simon Fraser	103	700.5	87.9	37.5	68.3	129.0	1,023.2
Sir George Williams	39	166.0		5.5	22.6		194.1
Toronto	403	3,900.0	543.2	296.0	464.0	862.0	6,065.2
Trent	24	140.0	12.0	25.0	13.8		190.8
Victoria	51	300.2	51.4	25.0	39.3		415.9
Waterloo	239	1,716.0	283.4	97.5	159.7	100.0	2,356.6
Waterloo Lutheran	3	7.5					7.5
Western Ontario	158	1,226.0	240.9	78.5	132.4	133.0	1,810.8
Windsor	73	477.4	41.7	30.0	58.0		607.1
Winnipeg	3	12.3					12.3
York	67	473.8	57.5	24.5	49.6		605.4
	4,032	31,055.5	5,015.4	2,215.0	3,752.3	4,887.0	46,925.2

APPENDICE «D»

CONSEIL NATIONAL DE RECHERCHES

AIDE AUX RECHERCHES UNIVERSITAIRES

	Operating		Major Equipment	General Research	Computer Facilities	Negotiated Major	Total
	No.	$000	$000	$000	$000	$000	$000
Acadia	19	71.9	24.5	25.0	19.5		140.9
Alberta	256	2,177.2	221.7	138.5	248.9	350.0	3,136.3
Bishop's	12	45.5		2.5	8.3		56.3
Brandon	4	14.0		1.5			15.5
British Columbia	329	3,115.5	596.7	191.0	347.7	225.0	4,475.9
Brock	19	104.4	20.0	23.0	19.2		166.6
Calgary	148	1,074.3	109.8	56.0	94.8	240.0	1,574.9
Carleton	76	499.3	26.5	28.0	56.7	205.0	815.5
Dalhousie	77	478.1	72.9	41.0	72.6	110.0	774.6
École Polytechnique	52	304.9	53.2	20.5			378.6
Guelph	148	861.0	211.6	41.0	74.0		1,187.6
Inst Microbiol (Montreal)	1	6.9					6.9
Jean de Brébeuf	1	0.9					0.9
Lakehead	22	103.7	30.3	25.0			159.0
Laurentian	16	63.0	12.8	25.0			100.8
Laval	139	1,142.1	287.2	78.5	169.0	202.0	1,878.8
Lethbridge	8	30.7					30.7
Loyola	14	42.1	17.4	2.5	18.1		80.1
Manitoba	204	1,525.5	237.5	93.5	188.6		2,045.1
McGill	284	2,453.7	531.7	161.0	283.6	380.0	3,810.0
McMaster	171	1,819.2	219.9	116.0	210.4	932.0	3,297.5
Memorial	53	336.3	39.2	25.0	44.7	155.0	600.2
Moncton	11	48.5		25.0	15.6		89.1
Montreal	128	996.5	185.5	90.0	180.6	600.0	2,052.6
Mount Allison	15	77.5	12.8	25.0	18.3		133.6
Mount St Vincent							
New Brunswick	78	547.2	68.0	35.5	65.8		716.5
Notre Dame	5	15.6		1.0			16.6
N.S. Agric College	2	3.5					3.5
N.S. Tech College	33	238.2		25.0	23.4		286.6
Ottawa	73	686.9	55.6	45.0	90.6		878.1
Prince of Wales	5	19.2	8.4	1.0			28.6
Queen's	170	1,195.4	397.1	71.0	133.2	164.0	1,960.7
St Dunstan's	2	7.6					7.6
St Francis Xavier	19	99.1	11.7	25.0	24.5		160.3
St John's	1	4.9					4.9
St Mary's	7	12.3		25.0			37.3
Saskatchewan—Regina	41	218.6	39.7	25.0	48.0		331.3
Saskatchewan—Saskatoon	160	1,171.6	146.2	82.5	190.2	100.0	1,690.5
Selkirk	2	5.9					5.9
Sherbrooke	64	317.1	59.5	25.0	98.3		499.9
Simon Fraser	103	700.5	87.9	37.5	68.3	129.0	1,023.2
Sir George Williams	39	166.0		5.5	22.6		194.1
Toronto	403	3,900.0	543.2	296.0	464.0	862.0	6,065.2
Trent	24	140.0	12.0	25.0	13.8		190.8
Victoria	51	300.2	51.4	25.0	39.3		415.9
Waterloo	239	1,716.0	283.4	97.5	159.7	100.0	2,356.6
Waterloo Lutheran	3	7.5					7.5
Western Ontario	158	1,226.0	240.9	78.5	132.4	133.0	1,810.8
Windsor	73	477.4	41.7	30.0	58.0		607.1
Winnipeg	3	12.3					12.3
York	67	473.8	57.5	24.5	49.6		605.4
	4,032	31,055.5	5,015.4	2,215.0	3,752.3	4,887.0	46,925.2

OFFICIAL BILINGUAL ISSUE

HOUSE OF COMMONS

First Session

Twenty-eighth Parliament, 1968-69

FASCICULE BILINGUE OFFICIEL

CHAMBRE DES COMMUNES

Première session de la

vingt-huitième législature, 1968-1969

STANDING COMMITTEE

ON

MISCELLANEOUS ESTIMATES

COMITÉ PERMANENT

DES

PRÉVISIONS BUDGÉTAIRES EN GÉNÉRAL

Chairman M. Fernand E. Leblanc *Président*

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS AND EVIDENCE

PROCÈS-VERBAUX ET TÉMOIGNAGES

No. 18

TUESDAY, APRIL 29, 1969

LE MARDI 29 AVRIL 1969

Respecting

The items listed in the Main Estimates 1969-70, relating to Canadian Arsenals Limited, Canadian Commercial Corporation, Public Service Staff Relations Board and Public Service Commission.

Concernant

Les postes énumérés au budget principal de 1969-1970, concernant les Arsenaux canadiens Limités, la Corporation commerciale canadienne, la Commission des relations de travail dans la fonction publique et la Commission de la fonction publique.

WITNESSES—TÉMOINS

(*See Minutes of Proceedings*) (*Voir Procès-verbaux*)

The Queen's Printer, Ottawa, 1969
L'Imprimeur de la Reine, Ottawa, 1969

20164—1

STANDING COMMITTEE
ON
MISCELLANEOUS ESTIMATES

COMITÉ PERMANENT
DES
PRÉVISIONS BUDGÉTAIRES
EN GÉNÉRAL

Chairman: M. Fernand-E. Leblanc *Président.*
Vice-Chairman: Mr. Jack Cullen *Vice-président*

and Messrs. et MM.

Alkenbrack,
Clermont,
Dumont,
[35]Guay (*Lévis*),
Gundlock,
LeBlanc (*Rimouski*),
Mather,
McCutcheon,
Noël,
Paproski,
Peddle,
Penner,
[34]Portelance,
Ricard,
Robinson,
Rochon,
Thomson (*Battleford-Kindersley*),
[33]Trudel—20.

Le secrétaire du Comité,
D. E. Levesque
Clerk of the Committee.

Pursuant to S.O. 65 (4) (b)

[33]Replaced Mr. Goode on April 29, 1969

[34]Replaced Mr. Cafik on April 29, 1969

[35]Replaced Mr. Marchand (*Kamloops-Cariboo*) on April 29, 1969

Conformément à l'article 65 (4) (b) du Règlement

[33]Remplace M. Goode le 29 avril 1969

[34]Remplace M. Cafik le 29 avril 1969

[35]Remplace M. Marchand (*Kamloops-Cariboo*) le 29 avril 1969

[*Text*]

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

Tuesday, April 29, 1969.
(19)

The Standing Committee on Miscellaneous Estimates met this day at 3.45 p.m., the Chairman, Mr. Fernand Leblanc, presiding.

Members present: Messrs. Alkenbrack, Guay (*Lévis*), Leblanc, (*Laurier*), Noël, Portelance, Thomson (*Battleford-Kindersley*), Trudel–(7).

Witnesses: *From the Canadian Arsenals Limited and the Canadian Commercial Corporation*: Mr. J. S. Glassford, President. *From the Public Service Staff Relations Board*: Messrs. J. Finkelman, Chairman and G. E. Gauthier, Vice-Chairman. *From the Public Service Commission*: Mr. J. J. Carson, Chairman, Dr. Y. Labonté, Commissioner and Mr. G. A. Blackburn, Director General, Language Bureau.

The Chairman called Items 30 and 35, relating to Canadian Arsenals Limited and introduced Mr. Glassford.

After discussion, Items 30 and 35 were allowed to stand.

On Item 40, Canadian Commercial Corporation, Mr. Glassford made a statement and answered questions.

Item 40, was allowed to stand.

The Chairman called Item 30, relating to the Public Service Staff Relations Board and introduced the witnesses.

Mr. Finkelman made a statement and with the assistance of Mr. Gauthier, answered questions.

Item 30, was allowed to stand.

Items 80 and 85, of the Public Service Commission were called. Mr. Carson made a brief statement and, assisted by Dr. Labonté and Mr. Blackburn, answered questions.

Items 80 and 85, were allowed to stand.

At 5.45 p.m., the Committee adjourned to the call of the Chair.

[*Texte*]

PROCÈS-VERBAL

Le mardi 29 avril 1969
(19)

Le Comité permanent des prévisions budgétaires en général se réunit cet après-midi à 3 h. 45, sous la présidence de M. Fernand Leblanc, président.

Présents: MM. Alkenbrack, Guay (*Lévis*), Leblanc (*Laurier*), Noël, Portelance, Thomson (*Battleford-Kindersley*), Trudel–(7)

Témoins: De les Arsenaux canadiens Limités et de la Corporation commerciale canadienne: M. J. S. Glassford, président. *De la Commission des relations de travail dans la fonction publique*:: MM. J. Finkelman, président; G. E. Gauthier, vice-président. *De la Commission de la fonction publique*:: M. J. J. Carson, président; Dr Y. Labonté, commissaire, et G. A. Blackburn, directeur général, bureau des langues.

Le président met à l'étude les crédits 30 et 35 concernant les Arsenaux canadiens Limités et présente M. Glassford.

Après débat, les crédits nos 30 et 35 sont réservés.

Au crédit no 40 concernant la Corporation commerciale canadienne, M. Glassford fait une déclaration et répond aux questions.

Le crédit no 40 est réservé.

Le président met à l'étude le crédit no 30, concernant la Commission des relations de travail dans la fonction publique et présente les témoins.

M. Finkelman fait une déclaration et assisté de M. Gauthier répond aux questions.

Le crédit no 30 est réservé.

Les crédits nos 80 et 85 de la Commission de la fonction publique sont mis en délibération. M. Carson fait une courte déclaration et assisté du Dr Labonté et M. Blackburn, répond aux questions.

Les crédits nos 80 et 85 sont réservés.

A 5 h. 45 de l'après-midi, le Comité s'ajourne jusqu'à nouvelle convocation du président.

Le secrétaire du Comité,
D. E. Levesque.
Clerk of the Committee

20164–1½

[Text]

[*Texte*]

EVIDENCE

(*Recorded by electronic apparatus*)

Tuesday, April 29, 1969

• 1446

The Chairman: Gentlemen, good afternoon. This afternoon we are going to study first the Estimates, 1969-70, relating to Canadian Arsenals, Limited. Vote 30, Administration and Operation, $1. Vote 35, Construction, Improvements and Equipment, $340,000. That is on page 392 of your blue book.

We have as witnesses Mr. G. W. Hunter, Deputy Minister (Supply) and Mr. J. S. Glassford, Assistant Deputy Minister (Purchasing). I believe that we are going to have an opening statement regarding Canadian Arsenals Limited by Mr. Glassford.

Mr. J. S. Glassford (Assistant Deputy Minister (Purchasing) Department of Supply and Services): Mr. Chairman, Canadian Arsenals limited was established in 1945 to take over and operate certain Government-owned plants that were engaged in the manufacture of defence supplies. The company is incorporated under the Canadian Corporations Act and it is subject to the Government Companies Operation Act and the Financial Administration Act. Over the last few years as the need for certain of the specialized supplies decreased, a number of plants were disposed of or sold as operating entities to Canadian industry.

At the present time the company consists of a Head Office located in Ottawa and two manufacturing plants, the Ammunition Filling plant located on the eastern outskirts of Montreal, and the Small Arms Division located near Long Branch, Ontario. The Ammunition Filling Division is equipped to load high explosives into artillery shells, mines, bombs, grenades, torpedoes and depth charges. It also loads propellants into artillery cartridge cases and rocket mortars. In addition, the plant produces components for and assembles mechanical and electronic fuses, artillery primers, detonators, delays and explosives. The operation is very specialized in nature and there is no equivalent skill in Canadian private industry.

The Small Arms Division at Long Branch is equipped for the production of all types of military small arms up to 30 m.m. in calibre. It is tooled up to

[*Interprétation*]

TÉMOIGNAGES

(*Enregistrement électronique*)

Le mardi 29 avril 1969

Le président: Bonjour, messieurs. Messieurs. Nous allons cet après-midi commencer par l'étude du budget des dépenses de 1969-1970 relatif à «*Les arsenaux canadiens Limitée* Crédit 30—Administration et fonctionnement $1» et aussi: «Crédit 35—Construction, améliorations et matériel $340,000». Ceci se trouve à la page 392 du Livre bleu que vous avez.

Nos témoins sont M. G. W. Hunter, sous-ministre (approvisionnements) et M. J. S. Glassford, sous-ministre adjoint (achats).

Je crois que nous allons entendre une déclaration préliminaire de M. Glassford, en ce qui concerne Les Arsenaux canadiens Limitée.

M. J. S. Glassford (sous-ministre adjoint (achats) au ministère des Approvisionnements et des Services): Monsieur le président, la société *Les Arsenaux canadiens Limitée* a été créée en 1945 pour prendre en charge et exploiter des usines de matériel de guerre appartenant au gouvernement du Canada. Elle est constituée en société aux termes de la Loi sur la Corporation commerciale canadienne et de ce fait, elle est assujettie aux dispositions des lois sur le fonctionnement des compagnies de l'Etat et sur l'administration financière. Depuis quelques années, le besoin de certains équipements spécialisés ayant diminué, on a vendu un certain nombre d'usines en état de fonctionnement à l'industrie canadienne.

La société consiste actuellement en un siège social à Ottawa et deux usines, l'une pour le chargement des munitions dans la banlieue est de Montréal et l'autre pour la fabrication des armes individuelles, près de Long Branch (Ontario). L'usine de chargement dispose de l'équipement nécessaire pour charger les obus d'artillerie, les mines, les bombes, les grenades, les torpilles et les charges sous-marines. Elle charge aussi les douilles des obus d'artillerie et les projectiles de mortiers. Elle fabrique et assemble les pièces d'amorces mécaniques et électroniques, d'amorces d'artillerie, de détonateurs, de dispositifs à retardement et d'explosifs. Ces opérations sont très spécialisées et l'entreprise privée au Canada pourrait difficilement s'en charger.

L'usine d'armes individuelles de Long Branch (Ontario) fabrique toutes sortes d'armes portatives jusqu'à 30 mm de calibre. Elle peut produire des

[*Text*]

produce machine carbines, automatic rifles, pistols and light, medium and heavy machine guns for ground or for air use. The Division also acts as a repair and overhaul facility for the weapons in use in the Canadian Forces, and it also undertakes modification programs on these weapons. It is the only military small arms plant in Canada.

• 1550

Much of the company's business comes from the Department of National Defence through orders placed by the Department of Supply and Services. Sales are also made to foreign countries through the Canadian Commercial Corporation. The company is not allowed to compete with private industry in Canada for commercial work, but because it has some very specialized facilities that are unique in Canada, it does obtain some commercial work from companies who require the use of these capabilities.

As a result of reorganization of the company, and the elimination or contraction of a number of the little used standby production operations, the company is now in a virtually breakeven position financially. However, it is still necessary to upgrade and update the production techniques and the equipment to ensure that the company is in a position to supply the ever-changing needs of the Department of National Defence in the ammunition and small arms field. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

The Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Glassford. Mr. Thomson.

Mr. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Some of the comments that the gentleman made answered my question, in part at least. I wondered, for example, why there was $1 million in Operations, $1 million in Administration, $1 million in Maintenance, and you had only $3½ million, or hardly that, in Manufacturing. It seemed to me that it was a little out of line, but I can see that there might be some reason here.

Do you operate on a full-time basis in these plants that make these munitions, or only as orders come in? What is the situation?

Mr. Glassford: We attempt to keep the plants as evenly loaded as possible by spacing orders to fill in slack times. There is not a great variation in the labour force. We have a certain room to manoeuvre by placing our orders for the components or equipment at the right time.

The expenditures shown here should be related to the revenue. The sale of the materials was estimated at $7,242,000. The direct manufacturing cost, of course, is the direct cost in the plant. The remain-

[*Interpretation*]

fusils-mitrailleurs, des carabines automatiques, des pistolets et des mitrailleuses lourdes, moyennes ou légères, pouvant être utilisées à terre ou sur des avions. Elle répare et revise aussi les armes utilisées par les forces armées du Canada et entreprend des programmes de modification à cet égard. C'est la seule usine fabricant des armes portatives militaires au Canada.

Le ministère de la Défense nationale est le principal client de la société. Il passe ses commandes par l'intermédiaire du ministère des Approvisionnements et des Services. La société exporte également vers des pays étrangers par l'intermédiaire de *Corporation commerciale canadienne*. La société n'a pas le droit de concurrencer l'industrie privée au Canada dans le domaine des affaires commerciales, mais, à cause de certaines de ses installations extrêmement spécialisées uniques au Canada, elle exécute certaines commandes commerciales passées par des sociétés qui ont besoin de ses services.

Pas suite de la réorganisation de la société, de l'élimination ou de la compression d'un certain nombre d'opérations de production, jusqu'ici mises en réserve, la société n'a pratiquement ni de profits ni de pertes.

Toutefois, il est nécessaire de moderniser les techniques et l'équipement de manière à assurer que la compagnie soit en mesure de satisfaire aux besoins en constante évolution du ministère de la Défense nationale dans le domaine des munitions et des petites armes. Merci, monsieur le président.

Le président: Merci, monsieur Glassford. Monsieur Thomson?

M. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Certaines des observations de ce monsieur ont répondu en partie du moins à ma question. Je me demandais pourquoi il y avait un million de dollars pour les opérations, un million de dollars pour l'administration et 1 million pour l'entretien et que vous n'aviez que 3 millions et demi ou à peine cette somme pour la fabrication. Cela me semble un peu disproportionné mais je peux voir cependant qu'il y ait là quelque explication.

Est-ce que vous opérez à plein temps dans ces usines de munitions ou seulement à mesure que les commandes vous parviennent? Quelle est la situation?

M. Glassford: Nous cherchons à faire travailler les usines aussi constamment que possible en répartissant les commandes pour occuper les temps morts. Il n'y a pas une grande variation de la main-d'œuvre. Nous avons une certaine marge pour manœuvrer en ce qui concerne les passages des commandes, de pièces ou d'équipement en temps utile. Les dépenses dont il est question ici doivent être considérées par rapport aux revenus. La vente du matériaux estimé à $7,242,000. Le coût de la fabrication directe explique évidemment

[*Texte*]

ing items are basically overhead and administration that go on top of that. So the two relate quite closely.

Mr. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): I still might wonder if it is a little out of balance. I have a question on another aspect. Would you suggest that we keep this plant for national interest reasons even though it may not be considered an efficient production unit?

Mr. Glassford: As I mentioned, the Filling Division is a unique capability. We could not get this elsewhere in Canada. The Small Arms Division also is unique in Canada. But we are having some thoughts about the future of that division because the workload has diminished considerably over the last few years.

Mr. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Are you suggesting we are not buying enough arms or shells?

Mr. Glassford: This is what has happened to a number of our other plants. We have reduced our usage of certain commodities in the armament field, and the plants have been sold and disposed of.

Mr. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): One further question. In your opinion—if you do not want to answer, that is alright—do you think we should keep a certain basic amount of this type of manufacturing available for national defence purposes, even if it is not used?

Mr. Glassford: We keep a certain stand-by capacity in items that we cannot buy elsewhere, but very little, if any, for items we can buy elsewhere. A number of our weapons in Canada are unique, and particularly the rounds that are used in the weapons are unique. They are not tooled up in any other part of the world. So these must be maintained if we are to supply our forces.

Mr. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Thank you.

The Chairman: Mr. Trudel.

M. Trudel: Monsieur le président, le témoin a indiqué que les Arsenaux canadiens limités sont les seuls à fabriquer certains objets. Pourrait-il être un peu plus explicite, parce que, je crois, il a aussi indiqué dans sa déclaration qu'on avait vendu des usines? Deuxièmement, ces usines vendues, y a-t-il possibilité d'obtenir les mêmes produits? Parle-t-il de l'équipement disponible dans les Arsenaux canadiens

[*Interprétation*]

les frais directe à l'usine. Pour le reste, ce sont des frais généraux et d'administration qui s'ajoutent aux premiers. Ainsi, il y a un rapport étroit entre ces deux coûts.

M. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Je me demande quand même si ce n'est pas encore un peu de déséquilibre.

J'ai une autre question, sur un autre aspect. Est-ce que selon vous cette usine devrait être conservée pour des motifs d'intérêt national, même si on ne peu la considérer comme une unité de production efficace?

M. Glassford: Comme je le disais, la Division du remplissage a une capacité très particulière qui n'existe pas ailleurs au Canada. Quant à la Division des petites armes, elle aussi est tout à fait unique. Mais nous avons des doutes au sujet de l'avenir de cette Division car, depuis les quelques dernières années, les commandes se sont raréfiées.

M. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Voulez-vous dire que n'achetons pas assez d'armes ou de cartouches?

M. Glassford: C'est ce qui s'est passé en ce qui concerne un certain nombre d'autres de nos usines. Nous avons diminué l'utilisation de certains produits et dans le domaine de l'armement nous avons fermé certaines usines et nous nous sommes défaits de certaines autres.

M. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Une autre question. A votre avis (si vous ne voulez pas répondre vous n'avez pas à le faire) est-ce que nous devons conserver une certaine partie de ce genre de fabrication aux fins de la défense nationale même si nous ne nous en servons pas?

M. Glassford: Nous gardons une certaine capacité en réserve en ce qui concerne les choses que nous ne pouvons pas acheter ailleurs, mais très peu sinon rien des choses que nous pouvons nous procurer ailleurs. Un certain nombre d'armes au Canada sont uniques au monde, en particulier les cartouches qui sont utilisées dans certaines armes sont uniques. On ne peut pas les trouver ailleurs dans le monde. Donc ces genres de munitions doivent être conservés si nous voulons les fournir à nos forces armées.

M. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Merci.

Le président: M. Trudel.

Mr. Trudel: Mr. Chairman, the witness has indicated that Canadian Arsenals Limited are the only ones that produce certain products. Could the witness be a little more explicit, because I believe that he also indicated in his statement that factories had been sold. Secondly, since these factories are sold, is it possible to obtain the same products? Is he referring to the equipment that is available at Canadian

[*Text*]

limités, ou de la dextérité des gens qui y sont employés actuellement? Sa déclaration voulant que seuls les Arsenaux canadiens aient la capacité de fabriquer certains produits me laisse un peu perplexe.

En effet, je crois qu'il existe des usines parallèles où la main-d'œuvre est à peu près la même que dans les Arsenaux canadiens, mais qui fabriquent des armes pour le sport.

Mr. Glassford: I might give an example to answer that question. The automatic rifle that is in common use in the Canadian Army, although it is a generally standardized weapon, has certain unique features in Canada. The parts that are produced are special to that rifle, and we would be in great difficulty to obtain replacement parts for the weapon in other countries. We would have to have a special facility set up elsewhere to do this, and I think we would prefer to have it done in Canada if we are going to set up such a facility.

Mr. Trudel: The facility that you are referring to then would have to do not with the projectiles, but rather the quipment itself?

Mr. Glassford: A number of the projectiles are Canadian-designed or at least modified in Canada. There are some, of course, that are common to other countries and we could buy those abroad. So far I think we have found that our cost of manufacture compares favourably with the cost of buying them abroad. In fact, as I mentioned, some of our items are sold abroad, so we must be competitive.

The Chairman: Mr. Alkenbrack.

Mr. Alkenbrack: Mr. Chairman, I notice that for the current year, that is 1968-69, the last year for which they are asking these amounts, it must be a very profitable operation because they have stated that their expenditures for Direct Manufacturing were $2,374,000 and at the same time their revenue from Manufacturing was $6,191,000. That is a good healthy yield for the expenditure. Could you explain that?

Mr. Glassford: The figure of $2,374,000 is the direct manufacturing cost, that is the labour and material cost to the factory. The remainder of the items in that column, of course, must also be applied as overhead and administrative expense on that direct manufacturing cost, in the normal accounting fashion. So the $6,418,000 really compares, although you cannot compare it quite directly to the $6,191,000, the revenue from manufacturing sales.

[*Interpretation*]

Arsenals Limited, or the skill of the people who are employed there at the present time? I am a little puzzled by his statement that Canadian Arsenals Limited are the only ones capable of manufacturing certain products.

In fact, I think there are similar factories using more or less the same kind of personnel as Canadian Arsenals Limited, but which manufacture fire-arms for sport.

M. Glassford: Je pourrais peut-être donner un exemple qui répondrait à cette question. La carabine automatique qui est utilisée par l'armée canadienne normalement, bien que ce soit une arme assez standard, a certains caractères très particuliers au Canada. Les pièces fabriquées pour ce fusil sont extrêmement particulières et nous aurions beaucoup de difficulté à obtenir des pièces de rechange pour cette arme dans d'autre pays. Il faudrait qu'il y ait une usine mise sur place ailleurs pour ce faire et je crois que nous préférons que cela soit fabriqué au Canada si nous devons mettre sur place une telle usine.

M. Trudel: Ce dont vous parlez alors, n'a pas tellement trait aux projectiles mais plutôt à l'équipement lui-même?

M. Glassford: Un certain nombre de ces projectiles sont conçus au Canada, ou tout au moins modifiés au Canada. Certains de ces projectiles sont utilisés évidemment, dans d'autres pays, et il nous serait possible de les acheter à l'étranger. Jusqu'à maintenant, nous avons constaté que nos frais de fabrication se comparent assez favorablement à ce qu'il nous en coûterait pour les acheter à l'étranger. De fait, je l'ai dit, nous vendont une partie de notre production à l'étranger et nous devons donc avoir un caractère concurrenciel.

Le président: M. Alkenbrack.

M. Alkenbrack: Monsieur le président, je constate que pour cette année-ci, c'est-à-dire, 1968-1969, la dernière année pour laquelle on exige ces montants, les opérations ont dû être très profitables car on a dit que les dépenses pour la fabrication directe était de $2,374,000 et en même temps, les recettes tirées de la fabrication s'élevaient à $6,191,000. C'est évidemment un bon bénéfice compte tenu des dépenses. Pourriez-vous nous expliquer cela?

M. Glassford: Le chiffre de $2,374,000 correspond aux frais de fabrication directe, c'est-à-dire le coût de la main d'oeuvre et des matériaux à l'usine. Le reste des crédits dans cette colonne doivent évidemment entrer en ligne de compte comme frais généraux, et frais administratifs sur le coût de fabrication directe de la façon comptable normale. Ainsi les $6,418,000 sont juste, même si vous ne pouvez pas comparer ces chiffres tout à fait directement aux $6,191,000 de revenus sur les ventes manufacturières.

[*Texte*]

Mr. Alkenbrack: Mr. Chairman, that does not answer my question. In the expenditures column there is an item "Direct Manufacturing". In 1968-69 it was $2,374,000 and in 1969-70 it was $3,345,000.

• 1600

From that merchandise in 1968-69 you obtained a revenue of $6,191,000, and in 1969-70 you obtained $7,242,000. I want to know how you double your money in that field?

The Chairman: Mr. Alkenbrack, probably it would help to have the breakdown of direct manufacturing?

Mr. Alkenbrack: The breakdown of direct manufacturing would not improve it.

Mr. Glassford: I think, Mr. Chairman, we might say that we have a direct manufacturing cost in the company of this amount plus an overhead account which, from these figures, is roughly 100 per cent. This is, in fact, quite a low overhead for a manufacturing operation of this type in Canadian industry. We must recover in our sales our total cost, or as close to it as we can. Hence, we must add on to our direct manufacturing cost all the other items of cost, such as the employee benefits, grants—and the grants are the equivalent of rental for taxes—in order that we come close to breaking even at the end of each year.

Mr. Alkenbrack: From where is this revenue for manufacturing principally obtained—from what customers?

Mr. Glassford: Principally from the Department of National Defence, and from foreign governments—mainly the United States—through the Canadian Commercial Corporation Contracts.

Mr. Alkenbrack: Roughly what ratio would that consist of? Would the United States be, for example, your best customer, or would our Department of National be your best customer?

Mr. Glassford: Of the foreign customers, certainly the United States is our best customer. The ratio varies considerably. Some of the sales are indirect; that is, we sell a certain activity or component to somebody else who is selling on the American market. My estimate would be about 50 – 50.

Mr. Alkenbrack: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

The Chairman: Could I ask a supplementary? Do we have any specific contract with the United States to supply them with whatever we produce?

[*Interprétation*]

M. Alkenbrack: Monsieur le président, cela ne répond tout de même pas à ma question. Dans la colonne des dépenses, je trouve un poste: frais de fabrication directe. En 1968-1969 il était de $2,374,000 et en 1969-1970, il était de $3,345,000.

Vous avez réalisé là-dessus, en 1968-1969, un revenu de $6,191,000 et en 1969-1970, $7,242,000. Je me demande comment vous pouvez doubler votre mise dans ce domaine?

Le président: M. Alkenbrack, ne serait-il pas bon de donner le détail des frais de fabrication directe?

M. Alkenbrack: Le détail n'améliorerait rien.

M. Glassford: J'ai l'impression, monsieur le président, que nous avons des frais de fabrication directs correspondant à ce montant, auquel s'ajoute un compte de frais généraux qui est d'environ 100 p. 100 d'après ces chiffres. Ce sont des frais généraux très bas pour une usine de ce genre, au Canada. Nous devons retrouver, en vendant notre production, tous nos frais ou presque. Il faut donc que nous ajoutions à nos frais de fabrication directs tous les autres postes de dépenses comme, par exemple, les prestations aux travailleurs, subventions, impôts, etc. de façon qu'à la fin de chaque année, nous approchions de l'équilibre.

M. Alkenbrack: Qui sont vos grands clients? D'où viennent vos recettes?

M. Glassford: Essentiellement, le ministère de la Défense nationale et des gouvernements étrangers, et, essentiellement, le gouvernement des États-Unis par l'entremise de la Corporation Canadienne Commerciale.

M. Alkenbrack: Quel est approximativement le rapport entre ces deux clients? Est-ce que les États-Unis seraient, par exemple, votre meilleur client ou est-ce que c'est notre ministère de la Défense nationale?

M. Glassford: Le meilleur client étranger que nous ayons est certainement les États-Unis. Le rapport entre les deux varie énormément. Une partie des ventes sont indirectes; nous vendons, par exemple, des pièces à quelqu'un qui vend sur le marché américain. Pour moi, le rapport serait de 50-50 environ.

M. Alkenbrack: Merci, M. le président.

Le président: Est-ce que je peux poser une autre question? Est-ce que nous avons passé des contrats précis avec les États-Unis pour leur fournir un matériel quelconque de notre production?

[*Text*]

Mr. Glassford: No, these are all individual contracts that are negotiated on an individual basis as they want a particular item.

The Chairman: Mr. Noël?

M. Noël: Monsieur le président, je peux vous poser la question suivante: apparemment, les revenus sont basés sur le coût ou les coûts, ou l'inverse, car, à chaque année on note toujours une différence de $1; alors, le gros client, j'en suis sûr, est le ministère de la Défense nationale, et on demande un prix basé sur le coût, afin que cette différence ne soit que de $1; suis-je dans l'erreur en vous posant cette question-là? Comment peut-on expliquer une coïncidence aussi parfaite entre le coût et toutes les dépenses: les salaires, les subventions, l'entretien, l'opération, etc, et la fabrication qui rapportent un total de: en 1968-1969, $6,191,000; en 1969-1970, on estime que cela va rapporter $7,242,000, et le tout balance confortablement à $1.

Alors, je crois que c'est le coût qui détermine le prix de vente.

• 1605

Mr. Glassford: I think I might answer that by saying our objective is to break even, so basically we start with the $1 in estimating what is going to happen in the coming year. Of course, this is an estimate. Our performance may not end up with the $1 but that is our objective and these are the estimates prepared to meet that objective.

M. Noël: Une autre question, monsieur le président. Quelle est la proportion des ventes faites à nos amis, les États-Unis, par rapport aux ventes faites au ministère de la Défense nationale?

Une Voix: 50–50.

M. Noël: 50–50.

What is the proportion between the sales made to the United States and the sales made to the Department of National Defence?

Mr. Glassford: I think it is approximately 50–50, I would have to check the exact figure.

Mr. Noël: So, you treat the United States on the same basis as our Department of National Defence?

Mr. Glassford: That is correct.

Mr. Noël: The cost fixes the price?

Mr. Glassford: That is correct.

Mr. Noël: Thank you.

[*Interpretation*]

M. Glassford: Non. Il s'agit de contrats isolés qui sont négociés isolément selon les matériaux envisagés.

Le président: Monsieur Noël?

Mr. Noël: Mr. Chairman, I would like to put the following question. Apparently, income is based on the costs, or the reverse, because every year probably we have a difference of $1.00. I am quite sure that the largest customer is the Department of National Defence, and a price is asked which is based on costs, so that the difference will be only $1.00. Am I wrong in asking you that question? How is it there is such a close coincidence between the costs and all the expenditures, i.e. wages, subsidies, operations, maintenance and so on, and manufacturing which brought in $6,191,000 for 1968-69, and in 1969-70, we estimate that the figure will be $7,242,000, whereas the whole balances out very neatly at $1.00.

So, I think that it is the cost that determines the selling price.

M. Glassford: Je pourrais répondre en disant que notre objectif est d'arriver à l'équilibre. Nous commençons donc avec $1 lorsque nous calculons ce qui va se passer dans l'année qui vient. Ce n'est évidemment qu'une prévision. Il est possible que notre rendement sera peut-être tel que nous n'atteindrons pas ce dollar mais voilà l'objectif que nous visons et voilà comment nous préparons nos prévisions.

Mr. Noël: Another question, Mr. Chairman. What is the proportion of sales to our friends, the United States, in relation to the sales made to DND?

An Hon. Member: 50-50.

Mr. Noël: 50-50.

Quel est le rapport entre les ventes faites aux États-Unis et les ventes faites à la Défense nationale?

M. Glassford: Environ 50 à 50 je pense. Il faudrait que je contrôle les chiffres exacts.

M. Noël: Les États-Unis sont donc traités de la même façon que notre ministère de la Défense nationale?

M. Glassford: C'est exact.

M. Noël: Ce sont les coûts qui fixent les prix?

M. Glassford: Oui.

M. Noël: Merci.

[*Texte*]

The Chairman: Are there any other questions? Mr. Portelance?

M. Portelance: Monsieur le président, M. Glassford mentionnait qu'il y a deux arsenaux au Canada: un à Long Branch, l'autre, vous avez mentionné qu'il était près de Montréal. Pourriez-vous donner un peu plus de détails sur son site et nous dire exactement ce qui se produit à cet endroit.

M. Glassford: Saint-Paul l'Ermite.

M. Portelance: Saint-Paul l'Ermite. Combien y a-t-il d'employés présentement qui travailleraient à cet arsenal de Saint-Paul l'Ermite?

Mr. Glassford: Approximately 350 at St. Paul l'Ermite.

M. Portelance: On n'y fabrique pas d'armes, on n'y fait que l'approvisionnement?

Mr. Glassford: It is a filling plant for amunition; no weapons are manufactured there.

Mr. Portelance: Thank you.

The Chairman: Mr. Thomson?

Mr. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In reference to new ideas such as a new propellant to put in these shells, do you get the idea from someone who brings it to you, or do you do any research of your own? Do you manufacture according to standards someone else sets up for you? What is the situation, please?

Mr. Glassford: The Department of National Defence has quite a large research establishment in the armament field known as CARDE, Canadian Armament Research and Development Establishment. Many of the Canadian new ideas flow from this activity and are put into practice by Canadian Arsenals. We do not do research, as such, in the armament field.

Mr. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): If you had a new idea in this respect you would have to submit it to this organization?

Mr. Glassford: There is a close liaison between the Research and Development Establishment and Canadian Arsenals and I think a new idea that was just an idea off the top of the head would be given to the Research and Development Establishment to explore further.

Mr. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Could we just go back for a moment to the administration in the manufacturing price and how you arrive at a

[*Interprétation*]

Le président: D'autres questions? Monsieur Portelance?

Mr. Portelance: Mr. Chairman, Mr. Glassford mentioned that there were two arsenals in Canada, one in Long Branch, and the other one you said was near Montreal. Could you give us some more information about its site and tell us exactly what is produced there.

Mr. Glassford: Saint-Paul l'Ermite.

Mr. Portelance: Saint-Paul l'Ermite. How many employees are working in that arsenal at Saint-Paul l'Ermite at the present time?

M. Glassford: Environ 350 à Saint-Paul l'Ermite.

Mr. Portelance: No weapons are manufactured there, only supplies?

M. Glassford: C'est en effet une usine de chargement de munitions. Nous ne fabriquons pas d'armes.

M. Portelance: Merci.

Le président: Monsieur Thomson?

M. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Monsieur le président, en ce qui concerne les nouvelles idées, par exemple, un nouveau propulsif pour ces obus, je prends cela comme exemple, prenez-vous des idées qui vous sont apportées, faites-vous des recherches vous-mêmes? Est-ce que vous fabriquez selon des normes qui sont indiquées par d'autres? Qu'en est-il?

M. Glassford: Le ministère de la Défense nationale a un établissement de recherches assez considérable dans le domaine des armements, connue sous le nom de CARDE, Canadian Armament Research and Development Establishment. Une grande partie des nouvelles idées canadiennes viennent de ce service et sont appliquées par les Arsenaux Canadiens. Nous ne faisons pas nous-mêmes de recherches dans le domaine des armements.

M. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Si vous aviez une nouvelle idée à cet égard, devriez-vous la soumettre à cette organisation?

M. Glassford: Il y a une liaison étroite entre l'établissement de recherches et de développement d'une part, et les Arsenaux canadiens d'autre part. Une idée quelconque, qui viendrait de l'un d'entre nous, serait transmise à l'établissement de recherches et de développement qui l'examinerait plus en profondeur.

M. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Ne pourrions-nous pas revenir au calcul des frais de fabrication, par exemple et comment vous calculez le prix

[*Text*]

price for a shell, for example. Is it arrived at on the basis of 50 per cent for administration, operating, and maintenance and 50 per cent direct manufacturing? What is the basis?

Mr. Glassford: That would be correct. If it was a new job the manufacturing cost would be estimated and then there would be a factor of about 100 per cent added on to cover the administrative and overhead items.

Mr. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): I noticed in answer to Mr. Alkenbrack's question, you said "for this type of plant". Are you suggesting that if it were, shall we say, a continuous flow type of plant, or some other type, that this percentage you mentioned could be different?

Mr. Glassford: No, I was giving a very general answer there, that just looking across Canadian industry an overhead of 100 per cent is not unusual in the manufacturing business. We run between 50 and 300 per cent depending on the type of plant. That is quite common.

Mr. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Thank you.

The Chairman: Mr. Glassford, I would like to go back to Mr. Noël's question. Here we have the estimates for 1968-69 and 1969-70 with a residue of $1 in each year. Now those are not the actual performances. I suppose that you have the actual figures for 1967-68 regarding performance. How was that figure arrived at? Did you balance at $1 or what?

Mr. Glassford: Our actual loss in that year was $34,000.

The Chairman: If there are no other questions we will carry on with the Canadian Commercial Corporation:

40 Administration and Operation..... 3,930,000

The details are on page 392. We have the same two witnesses, Mr. Hunter and Mr. Glassford.

Could we have an opening statement?

Mr. Glassford: Mr. Chairman and gentlemen, the Canadian Commercial Corporation is a rather unique Crown corporation which is located within the Department of Supply and Services. The function of the Corporation is to assist in the development of export business by providing a purchasing and a supply service when foreign governments wish to buy Canadian goods and services on a government-to-government basis. The Corporation acts as a contracting agency only. The marketing role is performed by the Department of Industry, Trade and Commerce, with which we maintain a very close working relationship.

[*Interpretation*]

d'un obus? Vous arrivez à 50 p. 100 pour l'administration, l'exploitation, et l'entretien, et 50 p. 100 pour fabrication directe? Comment calculez-vous?

M. Glassford: Nous calculons comme vous venez de dire. S'il s'agissait de quelque chose de nouveau, les frais de fabrication seraient calculés approximativement après quoi on ajouterait environ 100 p. 100 pour correspondre aux frais d'administration et aux frais généraux.

M. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): En répondant à M. Alkenbrack, vous disiez «pour ce genre d'usine». Par exemple, s'il s'agissait d'une usine à production continue, le pourcentage dont vous avez parlé pourrait être différent?

M. Glassford: Non. J'ai répondu d'une façon très générale. Je regardais l'industrie canadienne en général dans laquelle des frais de généraux de 100 p. 100 ne sont pas inhabituels. Ils varient de 50 à 300 p. 100 selon le genre d'usine, très couramment.

M. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Merci.

Le président: M. Glassford, je voudrais revenir à la question de M. Noël. Voici les crédits de 1968-1969 et 1969-1970, où on voit un résidu de $1 par année. Mais ce ne sont pas les chiffres réels. Je suppose que vous les avez quant au rendement pour l'année 1967-1968. Comment y êtes vous parvenus? Avez-vous vraiment eu une différence de $1 ou quoi?

M. Glassford: Nos pertes réelles pour cette année-là ont été de $34,000.

Le président: Est-ce qu'il y a d'autres questions? Sinon, nous poursuivrons donc avec la Corporation commerciale canadienne. (40, administration et fonctionnement, $3,930,000,) les détails sont à la page 392, et nous avons les deux mêmes témoins, M. Hunter et M. Glassford.

Est-ce que nous pourrions avoir une déclaration préliminaire?

M. Glassford: Monsieur le président, la Corporation commerciale canadienne est une société de la Couronne d'un caractère assez unique qui se trouve à l'intérieur du ministère des Approvisionnements et des Services. Son rôle est de favoriser l'exportation, en fournissant un service d'achat et d'approvisionnement aux gouvernement étrangers qui veulent traiter directement avec le gouvernement pour leurs achats au Canada. La Corporation ne sert que d'agence par l'intermédiaire de laquelle les contrats sont passés. La commercialisation est assurée par le ministère de l'Industrie et du Commerce, avec lequel nous restons en contacts continus et étroits.

[*Texte*]

The Corporation was established in 1946 by an act of Parliament, the Canadian Commercial Corporation Act.

The use of this Corporation by foreign governments is not mandatory but its services are available at their request and are provided without charge. Purchasing officers of other governments prefer to contract with the Corporation in many cases because it significantly reduces the risk to the foreign government in placing contracts in Canada. Conversely the Corporation thereby assists Canadian industry in making foreign sales by offering this assurance, and this is regarded as part of the Canadian government's program of assistance to Canadian exporters.

The normal method of operation is for the Corporation to obtain information on other governments' requirements, obtain bids from Canadian manufacturers and then make a formal CCC bid to the other government. If the CCC bid is accepted the Corporation then enters into a contract with the foreign government for the specific goods and services and the Department of Supply and Services contract specialists issue a back-to-back contract with the successful Canadian supplier.

The Department of Supply and Services provides all the contract management skills used by the Corporation. Since its inception in 1946 the Corporation's business volume has exceeded about $5 billion. In 1966-67 the dollar value of contracts placed with

● 1615

the Corporation was $220 million and in 1967-68 it had increased by 46 per cent to $322 million.

In looking at this year's estimates we show an amount of $3.93 million against a figure of $2.39 million for 1968-69. This is not really due to any change in establishment or increase in the number of people; it reflects a change in our method of charging from the Department of Supply and Services to CCC and it also reflects the increased volume that I have just mentioned. The change in charging was brought about by the introduction of the planning and budgeting system now being introduced by the Treasury Board. We believe the figure for 1969-70 is a more realistic estimate of the true cost of administration for the Corporation.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

The Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Glassford. Mr. Thomson.

Mr. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Mr. Chairman. I wonder if we could have more explanation on the sales and contracting policy. For example, I noticed an item in the paper the other day which suggested Mr. Pepin, Minister of Trade Commerce,

[*Interprétation*]

La Corporation a été établie en 1946, aux termes d'une loi du Parlement, la Loi sur la Corporation commerciale canadienne.

Les gouvernements étrangers ne sont pas obligés de recourir à cette corporation, mais ses services sont mis à leur disposition gratuitement, sur demande. Les agents d'achat des autres gouvernements préfèrent souvent recourir aux services de la Corporation, parce que cela diminue de beaucoup le risque que les gouvernements étrangers courent lorsqu'ils passent des contrats au Canada. A l'inverse, la Corporation aide ainsi l'industrie canadienne en accordant cette garantie qui fait partie du programme d'assistance du gouvernement canadien aux exportateurs canadiens.

La façon normale de procéder est que la Corporation obtient des renseignements sur les besoins des autres gouvernements et demande des offres auprès des fabricants canadiens, après quoi, elle présente une offre en bonne et due forme aux gouvernements étrangers en son nom. Si l'offre est acceptée, la Corporation passe un contrat avec le gouvernement étranger pour les biens et services en cause et les spéciales du ministère de l'Approvisionnement et des Services en matière de contrats passent un contrat parallèle avec le fournisseur canadien dont l'offre a été retenue.

Le ministère des Services et des Approvisionnements founit toutes les compétences en matière de contrats dont la Corporation a besoin. Depuis son origine en 1946, le chiffre d'affaires de la Corporation a dépassé 5 milliards de dollars. En 1966-1967, la valeur en dollars des contrats passés par la Corporation s'élevait à $220 millions et en 1967-1968, elle avait augmenté de 46 p. 100 pour atteindre $322 millions.

Si on regarde les crédits de cette année, on voit un montant de $3.93 millions contre un chiffre de $2.39 millions pour 1968-1969, ce qui n'est pas attribuable à un changement dans le personnel ni de structure, mais reflète plutôt un changement dans la comptabilité en ce qui concerne la facturation au ministère de l'Approvisionnement et des Services plus l'augmentation du chiffre d'affaire dont je viens de parler. Le nouveau système facturation découle de l'introduction du système de planification par le Conseil du Trésor. Selon nous les chiffres de 1968-1969 correspondent plus exactement aux véritables frais d'exploitation de la Corporation.

Merci, monsieur le président.

Le président: Merci, monsieur Glassford. Monsieur Thomson?

M. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Je me demande si on ne pourrait pas nous donner des renseignements plus précis en ce qui concerne les politiques en matière de ventes et de contrats. Ainsi, par exemple, je lisais l'autre jour dans les journaux que M.

[*Text*]

was prepared to make a loan to Malaysia of some $30-odd million for the purchase of CF 105s.

Mr. Glassford: CF-5.

Mr. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): It does not really matter, I do not want to discuss this particular deal except for illustration. What part would your Corporation play in a deal such as this?

Mr. Glassford: In this particular case the Malaysian government, if it decided to buy from Canada—the company was Canadair Limited—could either contract directly with Canadair, in which case we would play no part whatsoever, or they could ask to contract with us and we would then place a subcontract with Canadair. In that case we would take the responsibility for the management of the contract with Canadair and we would take financial responsibility that the moneys placed by the Malaysian government in Canada would produce the goods that they required.

Mr. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): When contracting how do you arrive at a price regarding something? Do you have some procedural method whereby you do this?

Mr. Glassford: There are many methods. The preferable one of course is a competitive tender, where we let the marketplace decide the right price. If it is an item that is a sole source or if there is a unique capability and we have to deal with one company we then have to negotiate that particular price based on cost breakdowns and cost estimates.

Mr. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Would you take, for argument's sake, 10 per cent return to capital, 8 per cent return to capital, or do you figure this closely?

Mr. Glassford: We normally do not work on a return to capital. Our profit is based on a cost of sales and a profit on sales.

Mr. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): I think you misunderstood me. When you are contracting a price for someone else do you allow this company that is making a bid an eight or 10 per cent return to capital? You must have some basis for arriving at a price, allowing a certain amount for labour, for capital and so on.

Mr. Glassford: We would normally allow, depending on the circumstances, the complexity of the article, the risk, a profit of somewhere between 5 and 10 per cent on an estimated basis on the selling price.

[*Interpretation*]

Pepin, le ministre du Commerce, était disposé à consentir un prêt d'environ $30 millions à la Malaisis pour l'achat de quelques CF-105?

M. Glassford: Non, des CF-5.

M. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Peu importe, je ne veux pas parler de ce contrat, c'est un exemple. Quel rôle jouerait votre Corporation dans une affaire de ce genre?

M. Glassford: Dans ce cas en particulier, le gouvernement de la Malaisie, si elle décidait d'acheter au Canada, c'est-à-dire de Canadair, pourrait procéder de deux façon: il pourrait passer directement le contrat avec Canadair, et dans ce cas nous n'interviendrions pas du tout, ou alors, il pourrait passer son contrat par l'entremise de notre Corporation et nous passerions alors le contrat un sous-contrat avec Canadair. Dans ce cas, nous assumerions la responsabilité de la gestion du contrat avec Canadair et nous accepterions la responsabilité financière en ce qui concerne l'argent que le gouvernement de la Malaisie place au Canada de sorte qu'ils obtiennent les marchandises achetées.

M. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Au cours des négociations qui mènent au contrat, comment fixez-vous les prix? Est-ce que vous avez une procédure quelconque?

M. Glassford: Il y a diverses méthodes. La meilleure méthode c'est de faire un appel d'offres et de laisser le marcher établir le prix. S'il s'agit d'un produit que l'on ne peut obtenir que d'un fabricant, ou qui demande une compétence unique et que nous devons nous adresser à une seule société, il faut négocier le prix en nous fondant sur les ventilations et les prévisions des coûts de revient.

M. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Est-ce que vous vous fonderiez, exemple, sur un bénéfice de 10 p. 100, ou de 8 p. 100, sur les investissements, ou est-ce que vous calculez une marge plus étroite?

M. Glassford: Non, non. Nous ne calculons généralement par à partir d'un bénéfice sur les investissements. Le bénéfice est fondé sur le coût de revient et le bénéfice sur les ventes.

M. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Vous m'avez mal compris, je pense. Lorsque vous passez un contrat pour quelqu'un d'autre, est-ce que vous permettez à la société qui présente une offre, un bénéfice de 8 ou 10 p. 100 sur ses investissements? Vous avez sûrement une formule quelconque pour établir le prix, en attribuant tel ou tel coût pour la main-d'oeuvre, pour le capital, etc.

M. Glassford: Nous permettons habituellement, selon les circonstances, la complexité de l'article, le risque, un bénéfique d'entre 5 et 10 p. 100 sur le prix de vente escompté.

[*Texte*]

Mr. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): What about quality? For example, suppose the company decides that they would like to do a little better than that. When contracting do you, in effect, say this particular item must be of such and such a quality, and you watch this?

Mr. Glassford: Yes. In general we use the quality assurance branch of the Department of National Defence to check on quality at the plant. In most cases these plants are ones that are also producing for National Defence.

● 1620

Mr. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Do you purchase in other countries or in Canada only?

Mr. Glassford: Canadian Commercial Corporation handles the incoming contracts. As the Department of Supply and Services we place contracts abroad, certainly.

Mr. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): I will pass for the moment, Mr. Chairman.

The Chairman: Mr. Trudel.

M. Trudel: Monsieur le président, il y a une augmentation de 1,600 mille dollars. Le témoin nous a dit que cette augmentation est due au travail de la comptabilité. Combien y a-t-il de personnes impliquées dans la Corporation?

Mr. Glassford: The Corporation has no paid employees. All the activity of the Corporation is performed by members of the Department of Supply and Services. That is what this charge represents. It is a charge to the Corporation for the services of the employees of the Department of Supply and Services.

M. Trudel: Je m'explique mal, monsieur le président, comment, si on n'a pas d'employés, on change la comptabilité. Je vais poser la question d'une façon différente. Auparavant, où se trouvait ce montant de $1.6 millions que l'on change maintenant de colonne?

Mr. Glassford: In the estimates of the Department of Supply and Services.

Mr. Trudel: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. Alkenbrack: I have a question about interest on loans. I realize that the Corporation is doing a very necessary job as an international broker for Canadian manufacturers, and I think it is a very good thing. But in the item, "Payment to Department of Supply and Services for Administrative Ser-

[*Interprétation*]

M. Thomson (Batteford-Kindersley): Et qu'en est-il de la qualité? Si, par exemple, la société décide qu'elle peut avoir davantage. Au cours des négociations, est-ce que vous précisez la qualité? Est-ce que vous surveillez la qualité?

M. Glassford: Oui, certainement. En général, nous avons recours aux services de la surveillance de la qualité du ministère de la Défense nationale, pour vérifier la qualité à l'usine. Dans la plupart des bases, ce sont des usines qui produisent déjà pour la défense nationale.

M. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Est-ce que vous achetez à l'étranger ou seulement au Canada?

M. Glassford: La Corporation commerciale canadienne s'occupe des contrats qui viennent au Canada. Nous plaçons cependant les contrats à l'étranger, en tant que ministère de l'Approvisionnement et des Services.

M. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): C'est tout pour l'instant, monsieur le président.

Le président: Monsieur Trudel.

Mr. Trudel: Mr. Chairman, there has been an increase of $1.6 million. The witness has just indicated that this increase was due to the bookkeeping operation. How many people are involved in the Corporation?

M. Glassford: La Société n'a pas d'employés à salaire. Toute l'activité de la Corporation se fait par les employés du ministère des Approvisionnements et Services. C'est tout ce que ce poste représente. C'est ce qu'on facture à la Corporation pour les services des fonctionnaires du ministère des Approvisionnements et Services.

Mr. Trudel: Mr. Chairman, I don't quite understand how come that if we have no employees, the bookkeeping is changed. I will put the question differently. Previously, where was this $1.6 million, which has now changed columns, listed?

M. Glassford: Dans les crédits du ministère des Approvisionnements et Services.

M. Trudel: Merci, monsieur le président.

M. Alkenbrack: J'aurais une question à poser en ce qui concerne l'intérêt sur les prêts. Je me rends compte que cette Corporation fait un travail extrêmement utile tant que courtier sur le marché international pour les fabricants canadiens, et je crois que c'est une bonne chose. Vous avez ici au poste

[*Text*]

vices, and interest on loans", to what loans does that refer, Mr. Chairman?

Mr. Glassford: The Company has an authorized working capital of $20 million. The first $10 million we have at no interest charge, and the amount of money we draw down on the second $10 million is charged to us at the going government interest rate by the Department of Finance. This is a technique to make us keep our use of working capital as low as possible; so it highlights the cost of it.

We turn our money around about 2½ times a month and we are, on an average, about $6 million or $7 million into the second $10 million. That is what these estimates are based on.

Mr. Alkenbrack: You are turning over, then, $10 million 2½ times per month?

Mr. Glassford: About that.

Mr. Alkenbrack: There must be quite a revenue accrued from that. Why would it not be better for the Canadian Commercial Corporation to charge the foreign purchaser a little higher interest rate in all cases where credit is advanced? I assume that it is always credit, and that very seldom, or never, do you sell for cash?

Mr. Glassford: All our sales are for cash, as far as the Canadian Commercial Corporation is concerned. Usually on any major contracts we obtain either advance payments or progress payments. This is typical and common, particularly in the military equipment field.

Mr. Alkenbrack: Can one say it is cash and yet have credit advanced to the foreign nation? For example, when we sold locomotives to Pakistan you were probably the broker in that. Long-term credits were advanced in that case.

Mr. Glassford: I do not believe that came through the Canadian Commercial Corporation.

Mr. G. W. Hunter (Deputy Minister (Supply), Department of Supply and Services): It was Export Credits Insurance Corporation.

Mr. Alkenbrack: Thank you. The proposition that occurred to me was that you should charge the foreign purchaser a little more interest than you had to pay, and therefore the Canadian Commercial Corporation would be that much more self-supporting and that much less of a burden on the taxpayers.

[*Interpretation*]

"Versements au ministère des Approvisionnements et Services pour services administratifs, et intérêt sur des prêts." De quels prêts s'agit-il, monsieur le président?

M. Glassford: La Corporation a un capital de roulement autorisé de $20 millions. Pour les premiers $10 millions, nous ne payons pas d'intérêts. Quant à l'argent que nous empruntons sur les autres $10 millions de dollars, il nous est facturé au taux courant du gouvernement par le ministère des Finances. C'est une technique qui nous oblige à utiliser le moins possible le capital de roulement; le coût de ce capital est ainsi mis en lumière.

Nous renouvelons notre fonds environ deux fois et demi par mois et, en moyenne, nous avons tiré $6 ou $7 millions sur le deuxième $10 millions. C'est sur ces chiffres que nos prévisions sont fondées.

M. Alkenbrack: Votre capital de roulement est donc de $10 millions, deux fois et demi par mois?

M. Glassford: Environ, oui.

M. Alkenbrack: On doit en tirer des revenus considérables, n'est-ce pas? Pourquoi ne serait-il pas préférable pour la Corporation commerciale canadienne de demander un taux d'intérêt un peu plus élevé à l'acheteur étranger dans tous les cas où on lui fait crédit? Et j'imagine que les ventes se feront invariablement à crédit et qu'il est assez rare que vous vendez comptant.

M. Glassford: Toutes nos ventes sont au comptant, en ce qui concerne la Corporation commerciale canadienne. Normalement, en ce qui concerne les contrats d'envergure, nous obtenons soit des paiements anticipés ou des paiements au fur et à mesure des livraisons. C'est courant, en particulier en ce qui concerne le matériel militaire.

M. Alkenbrack: Vous dites que c'est comptant et pourtant vous faites crédit aux pays étrangers. Par exemple, lorsque nous avons vendu des locomotives au Pakistan, je pense que vous étiez le courtier dans ce cas. On a annoncé des crédits à long terme.

M. Glassford: Je ne pense pas que ce contrat ait été passé par l'entremise de la Corporation commerciale canadienne.

M. G. W. Hunter (sous-ministre (approvisionnements)): Cela s'est fait par l'entremise de la société d'assurance des crédits à l'exportation.

M. Alkenbrack: Merci. Je me suis demandé pourquoi on ne demanderait pas à l'acheteur étranger de payer un peu plus d'intérêts que ce que vous avez à payer, de façon que la Corporation commerciale canadienne se suffirait davantage à elle-même et serait un fardeau moins lourd pour les contribuables.

[*Texte*]

Mr. Glassford: We could do this, and at one time it was done. However, it makes the Canadian exporter just a little bit less competitive in the world market.

Mr. Alkenbrack: That is true.

Mr. Glassford: And the margins on some of these sales are very, very slim indeed, in terms of world-wide competition.

M. Noël: Monsieur le président, j'ai cru comprendre tout à l'heure que le chiffre d'affaires annuel variait entre 200 et 300 millions de dollars.

Mr. Glassford: Three hundred and thirty million dollars last year.

M. Noël: J'ai cru comprendre, au début de votre exposé, que pour un certain nombre d'années, le chiffre avait dépassé $5 milliards.

Since 1946?

Mr. Glassford: That was the total sales over the period.

M. Noël: Si je comprends bien, vous agissez pour le compte de manufacturiers canadiens afin de leur aider à vendre à l'extérieur.

Mr. Glassford: We assist them to the extent that we guarantee the foreign purchaser that he will receive his goods and that he will receive the goods he has specified. In other words, we provide assurance to the foreign purchaser.

M. Noël: Est-ce que vous garantissez au manufacturier canadien qu'il sera payé?

Mr. Glassford: Yes.

M. Noël: Vous assumez une responsabilité?

Mr. Glassford: That is correct.

M. Noël: Est-ce que cela vous arrive d'avoir des pertes?

Mr. Glassford: We have had some losses, but not through failure on the part of a foreign country to pay. We have had some losses on failure to provide the right goods and services, in other words, through the bankruptcy of a Canadian contractor, and such things; but very, very small.

M. Noël: Quelle commission demandez-vous aux manufacturiers canadiens qui se servent de vos bons offices et, réciproquement, quelle commission demandez-vous à l'importateur étranger qui se sert de vos bons offices?

[*Interprétation*]

M. Glassford: Nous pourrions le faire et cela s'est déjà fait d'ailleurs. Toutefois, l'exportateur canadien se trouve de ce fait un peu moins compétitif sur le marché mondial.

M. Alkenbrack: C'est vrai.

M. Glassford: Et les bénéfices sur certaines de ces ventes, vue la concurrence mondiale, sont souvent très minces.

Mr. Noël: Mr. Chairman, if I understand correctly, it was mentioned a while ago that the annual turnover was between $200 million and $300 million.

M. Glassford: $330,000,000 l'an dernier.

Mr. Noël: I thought, at the outset of your remarks, that you indicated that for some years the figure had exceeded $5 billion.

Depuis 1946?

M. Glassford: C'est le total des ventes pour cette période.

Mr. Noël: If I understand correctly, you act on behalf of Canadian manufacturers to assist them in selling abroad.

M. Glassford: Nous les aidons dans la mesure où nous garantissons à l'acheteur étranger qu'il recevra bel et bien les marchandises achetées et qu'il recevra les marchandises qu'il a choisi. Autrement dit, nous servons d'assurance à l'acheteur étranger.

Mr. Noël: Do you guarantee the Canadian manufacturer that he will be paid?

M. Glassford: Oui.

Mr. Noël: You assume a responsibility in this respect, do you not?

M. Glassford: C'est exact.

Mr. Noël: Do you ever lose anything on your operations?

M. Glassford: Nous avons subi des pertes mais ce n'était pas parce que le pays étranger avait refusé de payer, non. Nous avons subi des pertes parce que nous n'avons pas pu livré les marchandises et les services demandés. Il est arrivé, par exemple, qu'un entrepreneur canadien ait fait faillite, des choses de ce genre, mais les pertes étaient assez minimes.

Mr. Noël: What commission do you charge Canadian manufacturers who use your good offices and, conversely what is the commission you charge foreign importers who use your good offices?

[*Text*]

Mr. Glassford: We charge no commission to the . . .

Mr. Noël: No commission?

Mr. Glassford: That is correct.

M. Noël: Si vous êtes obligés d'essuyer une perte lorsqu'un manufacturier canadien exporte, où apparaîtrait-elle dans les chiffres? Cela apparaîtrait-il dans «Services administratifs» ou ailleurs?

Mr. Glassford: The money would have to appear in the estimates and be voted to cover any loss.

M. Noël: Dans les prévisions budgétaires du ministère des Approvisionnements et Services?

Mr. Glassford: Yes.

M. Noël: Merci.

Le président: Avez-vous d'autres questions?

Mr. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Mr. Chairman, I have one or two quick questions.

What is the situation in other countries? Do the U.S. and Britain have a brokerage type of arrangement to deal with military purchases in the same way?

Mr. Glassford: I think our particular arrangement is unique. I believe several countries are seriously thinking about setting up a similar arrangement, because we have been quite successful.

The American Department of Defence has an arrangement whereby there is a military sales group, and foreign countries can buy from stock, in many cases, the surplus stock of the American forces. We buy that way from them.

In the United Kingdom the majority of the sales are made directly by the companies concerned, although a few items are bought through the government. They

• 1630

have a special group to handle the sales through the government.

A number of other countries have various arrangements of a group of people to handle this particular aspect of the business.

Mr. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): I have further question, Mr. Chairman.

This Corporation deals primarily in military goods, as I understand it. What would you think of a government brokerage firm dealing on the same basis in commercial goods with other nations?

[*Interpretation*]

M. Glassford: Nous ne prenons aucune commission.

M. Noël: Pas de commission.

M. Glassford: C'est exact.

Mr. Noël: If you have to absorb a loss when a Canadian manufacturer exports, where would that appear in the figures? Would it appear under Administrative Services, or elsewhere?

M. Glassford: Il faudrait que l'argent figure aux prévisions et qu'on vote les crédits pour effacer ces pertes.

Mr. Noël: In the Estimates of the Department of Supply and Services?

M. Glassford: Oui.

Mr. Noël: Thank you.

The Chairman: Are there any other questions?

M. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): J'ai une ou deux autres questions, monsieur le président.

Quelle est la situation dans les autres pays? Est-ce que les États-Unis et la Grande-Bretagne ont un service de courtage de ce genre pour les achats de matériel militaire?

M. Glassford: Non, j'ai l'impression que notre service est assez unique en son genre. Un certain nombre de pays songent sérieusement à mettre sur pied un service semblable, car ces résultats sont plutôt bons.

Le département américain de la défense a un service chargé des ventes de matériel militaire auquel les pays étrangers peuvent s'adresser pour acheter des stocks ou des biens de surplus des forces américaines. C'est du reste ce que nous faisons nous-mêmes.

Au Royaume-Uni, la plupart des ventes se font directement par les sociétés en cause, bien que quelques articles soient achetés par l'entremise du gouvernement, qui a un service analogue.

Un certain nombre d'autres pays ont divers services semblables qui se chargent de cet aspect particulier.

M. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Une autre question, monsieur le président.

Cette corporation s'occupe essentiellement de matériel militaire, si je comprends bien. Que penseriez-vous si le gouvernement avait une société analogue pour se charger des achats de marchandises commerciales auprès des pays étrangers.

[*Texte*]

Mr. Glassford: We are not limited to dealing in military goods and we do not deal entirely in military goods. The major part of our business is military but we also handle a fair amount of external aid business, so there is commercial business.

I think that if it appeared desirable and if it would aid our sales, certainly the Corporation could assist in other types of business.

Mr. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): You would not like to sell a little wheat or oil, would you?

Mr. Glassford: We have sold wheat.

Mr. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

The Chairman: Mr. Noël.

M. Noël: Encore une question, monsieur le président. Avec un chiffre d'affaires d'environ 335 millions de dollars, le ministère des Approvisionnements et Services prévoit recevoir pour ses services administratifs, $3,930,000. C'est plus de 10 p. 100. Je crois que c'est un courtage assez intéressant.

Le président: C'est 1 p. 100 je crois.

M. Noël: Vous avez raison, excusez-moi. Je retire ma question. Y a-t-il moyen de la retrancher?

Le président: Il est un peu tard malheureusement.

Are there any other questions, gentlemen?

This completes the study of the estimates for 1969-1970 relating to Canadian Arsenals Limited and Canadian Commercial Corporation.

As we do not have a quorum, of course, we will have to stand these three votes. I wish to thank the two witnesses, Mr. Hunter and Mr. Glassford; thank you, very much.

I will now call the Public Service Staff Relations Board, Vote 30, Administration—$1,406,500.

PRIVY COUNCIL

D—PUBLIC SERVICE STAFF RELATIONS BOARD

30 Administration.....$1,406,500

Gentlemen, we have three witnesses, Mr. J. Finkelman, Chairman of the Public Service Staff Relations Board, Mr. G. E. Gauthier, Vice-Chairman and Mr. Marcel Garneau, Secretary of the Board. I suppose, Mr. Finkelman, you could start with an opening statement.

Mr. J. Finkelman (Chairman, Public Service Staff Relations Board): Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

[*Interprétation*]

M. Glassford: Non, non. Nous ne nous occupons pas uniquement de matériel militaire. Nous nous occupons surtout de matériel militaire mais, en fait, nous nous occupons aussi d'aide extérieure, et cela revêt un caractère commercial. S'il semblait opportun de le faire et si cela devait augmenter nos ventes, il est certain que la Corporation pourrait nous apporter d'autres genres d'affaires.

M. Thompson (Battleford-Kindersley): Est-ce que vous aimeriez vendre du pétrole ou du blé?

M. Glassford: Nous avons déjà vendu du blé.

M. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Merci, monsieur le président.

Le Président: Monsieur Noël.

Mr. Noël: Another question, Mr. Chairman. With a turnover of approximately $335 million, the Department of Supply and Services expects to collect $3,930,000 for its administrative services. This is more than 10 per cent. I do believe this is a pretty high brokerage fee.

The Chairman: It is one per cent, I believe.

Mr. Noël: Oh, I am sorry. You are right. I will withdraw that question. Could it be struck off the record?

The Chairman: Unfortunately, it is a little late.

Est-ce qu'il y a d'autres questions, messieurs?

Eh bien! ceci met fin à l'examen des dépenses de 1969-1970 en ce qui concerne le *Canadian Arsenals Limitée* et la Corporation commerciale canadienne.

Comme il n'y a pas quorum, il va falloir bien entendu que nous réservions ces trois crédits.

Qu'il me soit maintenant permis de remercier les deux témoins, M. Hunter et M. Glassford. Merci, messieurs.

Commission des relations du travail dans la fonction publique, crédit nº 30, administration:

$1,406,500. Le crédit se trouve à la page 303.

Messieurs, nous avons trois témoins: M. J. Finkelman, président de la Commission des relations du travail dans la fonction publique; M. G.-E. Gauthier, vice-président et M. Marcel Garneau secrétaire de la Commission. M. Finkelman aurait peut-être une déclaration préliminaire à nous présenter?

M. J. Finkelman (Président de la Commission des relations de travail dans la fonction publique): Merci,

[*Text*]

I welcome the opportunity of presenting to you and the members of the Committee a brief outline of the functions and operations of the Public Service Staff Relations Board and its related authorities. For a more detailed account of these matters and of the governing legislation, I would refer you to the first annual report of the Public Service Staff Relations Board which was tabled in Parliament some months ago. For your convenience, we have copies of the report available here.

● 1635

The Public Service Staff Relations Act made applicable to the Public Service of Canada principles of industrial relations legislation that have long been applicable in the private sector and in certain portions of municipal, provincial and federal government operations, namely, a system of collective bargaining. The Act enables an employee organization that represents a group of employees to negotiate with their employer with a view to reaching agreement on rates of pay and other terms and conditions of employment.

Such negotiations take place at regular intervals and, where an agreement is reached, it is binding for a specified period of time. In the event that agreement is not reached by negotiation, the matters in dispute and referred either to the Public Service Arbitration Tribunal or to an *ad hoc* conciliation board at the option of the employee organization representing the group of employees concerned.

Before an employee organization becomes entitled to bargain with the employer on behalf of any particular group of employees, it must be certified by the Public Service Staff Relations Board as the bargaining agent for that group of employees. To obtain certification, the employee organization must establish to the satisfaction of the Board that it represents a majority of the employees in an appropriate constituency or, to use the standard industrial relations terminology, in an appropriate bargaining unit.

The primary functions of the Board include the determination of bargaining units, the certification of bargaining agents, the determination (in case of dispute) of the persons in any occupational group who are employed in a managerial or confidential capacity, the revocation of bargaining rights in specified circumstances and the hearing and determination of complaints alleging that certain provisions of the Act have been infringed. Other Board functions are concerned with the specification by bargaining agents of the dispute settlement process, the designation (in case of dispute) of the employees whose duties are essential to the safety and security of the public, the declaration as to whether strikes are lawful or unlawful, and the granting of consent to the institution of prosecutions against employees who engage in unlawful strikes.

[*Interpretation*]

monsieur le président, je suis heureux de vous présenter, à vous et aux membres du Comité, un aperçu des fonctions et des opérations de la Commission des relations du travail dans la fonction publique, et des services qui en dépendent. Pour obtenir un compte rendu plus détaillé de ces questions et de la loi régissant la matière, vous pourriez consulter le premier rapport annuel de la Commission des relations du travail dans la fonction publique, déposé au Parlement, il y a quelques mois. Des exemplaires du rapport sont à votre disposition ici.

La Loi sur les relations du travail dans la fonction publique rend applicable dans la fonction publique du Canada des principes de la législation des relations du travail appliqués depuis longtemps dans le secteur privé et à l'égard de certaines des opérations des gouvernements municipaux, provinciaux et fédéral, à savoir un système de négociations collectives. La loi autorise une organisation d'employés qui représente un groupe de fonctionnaires à négocier avec son employeur les taux de rémunération et autres conditions de travail.

Ces négociations ont lieu à intervalles réguliers et lorsque des accords sont signés, ils sont exécutoires pour une période de temps donnée. Lorsqu'il n'y a pas accord par voie de négociations, les questions en litige sont renvoyées soit au tribunal d'arbitrage de la fonction publique soit à un comité de conciliation, ce choix appartenant à l'organisation d'employés qui représente le groupe intéressé.

Avant qu'une organisation d'employés ait le droit de négocier avec l'employeur au nom d'un groupe de fonctionnaires, elle doit être accréditée par la Commission des relations du travail dans la fonction publique en tant qu'agent négociateur pour ce groupe de fonctionnaires. Pour obtenir cette accréditation, l'organisation d'employés doit convaincre la Commission qu'elle représente la majorité des fonctionnaires dans tel ou tel domaine ou, selon notre jargon, dans une unité de négociations appropriée.

Les principales fonctions de la Commission comprennent la détermination des unités de négociations, l'accréditation des agents négociateurs, la détermination (dans le cas de conflit) des membres d'un groupe qui occupent des fonctions directoriales ou de confiance, la révocation des droits à la négociation dans certaines circonstances et l'audition des plaintes selon lesquelles on aurait enfreint certaines dispositions de la Loi. La Commission s'occupe également de questions ayant trait au choix par les agents négociateurs du procédé de règlement des conflits, à la désignation (en cas de conflit) des employés dont les services sont nécessaires pour la sûreté et la sécurité du public et à l'autorisation des poursuites contre les employés qui font illégalement la grève.

[*Texte*]

The statute vests in the chairman of the Board authority to appoint conciliators to assist employers and bargaining agents to reach agreement and to refer matters in dispute in negotiations to the Public Service Arbitration Tribunal or to a conciliation board, as the case may be, and to fix their terms of reference.

The arbitration process, following the reference of a dispute to arbitration, is administered by the chairman of the Public Service Arbitration Tribunal.

The Public Service Staff Relations Act establishes a grievance procedure for employees in the Public Service that is unique in North America. Broadly speaking, injustices that employees feel have been inflicted upon them, except those that are capable of redress by other process provided in or under an Act of Parliament, are admissible under the grievance procedure established under the Public Service Staff Relations Act.

In addition, all grievances arising out of the interpretation or application of a collective agreement or an award of the Arbitration Tribunal and all grievances relating to disciplinary action resulting in discharge, suspension or a financial penalty are not only admissible under the grievance procedure but they are also subject to binding adjudication by an independent third party, namely, an adjudicator appointed under the Act. In the case of grievances that cannot be referred to adjudication, the decision of management is binding after the grievance has been carried through the prescribed steps in the grievance procedure. The system of grievance adjudication is administered by the chief adjudicator.

It may be of interest to point out that among the resolutions adopted by the Board at its first meeting in March, 1967, is one declaring that all hearings of the Board were to be conducted in public, except where security questions were involved. Another resolution adopted at that meeting was that adequate arrangements were to be made to enable every member of the Board and everyone appearing at a hearing of the Board to feel free to use either of the official languages as he desired and that official notices to the employees be issued in both languages. All these resolutions have been meticulously observed.

Shortly after the coming into force of the legislation, the Pay Research Bureau of the former Civil

• 1640

Service Commission was brought under the administrative jurisdiction of the Chairman of the Public Service Staff Relations Board. The activity of the Bureau consists of the collection of information and of research on rates of pay, employee earnings, conditions of employment and related practices both inside and outside of the Public Service to meet the needs of the parties under collective bargaining and of the employers in the case of persons excluded from bargaining and of employees for whom no bargaining agent has been certified.

[*Interprétation*]

La loi charge le président de la Commission de nommer des conciliateurs pour aider les employeurs et les agents négociateurs à arriver à un accord, pour renvoyer les questions en litige au tribunal d'arbitrage de la fonction publique ou à un comité de conciliation, selon le cas, et à arrêter leurs attributions. Le processus d'arbitrage, après renvoi d'un conflit à l'arbitrage de conflits, est dirigé par le président du tribunal d'arbitrage de la fonction publique.

La loi sur les relations du travail dans la fonction publique a établi un système de griefs pour les employés de la fonction publique qui est unique en Amérique du Nord. Généralement parlant, les injustices dont pensent souffrir les employés, à l'exception de celles auxquelles on peut remédier en vertu d'autres lois du Parlement sont traitées par des procédures arrêtées aux termes de la Loi sur les relations du travail dans la fonction publique.

En outre, tous les conflits nés de l'interprétation ou de l'application d'une convention collective ou d'une décision du tribunal d'arbitrage et tous les griefs se fondant sur des mesures disciplinaires qui donnent lieu au renvoi, à la suspension ou à une amende peuvent non seulement être entendus dans le cadre de la procédure de grief, mais sont aussi assujettis à une décision exécutoire prise par un tiers indépendant, à savoir, un arbitre nommé aux termes de la loi. Quant aux griefs qui ne peuvent être traités de cette façon, les décisions de la direction sont exécutoires, après que le grief soit passé par toutes les étapes de la procédure. L'arbitrage en matière de griefs est dirigé par un chef arbitre.

Il est peut-être intéressant de signaler que parmi les résolutions adoptées par la Commission lors de sa première réunion en mars 1967, l'une d'entre elles déclare que toutes les audiences de la Commission seront publiques sauf là où il s'agit de questions de sécurité. Une autre résolution adoptée lors de cette réunion demande que des dispositions soient prises pour permettre à tous les membres de la Commission et à tous les témoins appelés d'utiliser librement l'un où l'autre des deux langues officielles et pour assurer que tous les avis officiels aux employés soient publiés dans les deux langues. Toutes ces résolutions ont été scrupuleusement respectées.

Peu après l'entrée en vigueur de la loi, le Bureau de recherches sur la paie de l'ancienne Commission du

Service civil a été placé sous la direction administrative du président de la Commission des relations du travail dans la fonction publique. Le Bureau rassemble des renseignements et mène des recherches sur les taux de rémunération, les revenus des employés, les conditions de travail et autres questions de ce genre à l'intérieur et à l'extérieur de la fonction publique, de façon à aider les parties en négociation ou les employeurs, au cas où des personnes sont exclues de la négociation ou lorsqu'un groupe d'employés n'a pas d'agent négociateur accrédité.

[*Text*]

Our proposed estimates for 1969-70 amount to $1,406,500, compared to $1,409,000 for 1968-69 approved last year. The net change is minus $2,500, which can be explained by the variations in several items, some representing increases, other decreases. The main variations resulting from increases are:

$58,000 – salaries
13,000 – transportation and communications

The decreases come mainly from reduction in the item "all other expenditures" for:

Board members	$35,000
Abritration and conciliation	20,000
Adjudication	19,000

The authorized man-years for 1969-70 is 100. Last year, it was 111. At the end of March of this year, the total staff was 90.

The Chairman: You have heard the opening statement. Mr. Thomson, do you have any questions?

Mr. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Mr. Chairman, as I understand it, this Act is quite new. You have been in roughly a year?

Mr. Finkelman: Just a little over two years.

Mr. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Who handled this type of work before?

Mr. Finkelman: There was a system before, with which I am not too well acquainted, whereby, I believe, the Civil Service Commission made recommendations to the government. There was no system of collective bargaining as it is established under this Act.

Mr. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Have you had many grievances?

Mr. Finkelman: I do not know just how to answer your question. There were 38 references to adjudication in the first fiscal year, and 64 in this year. The number is growing. There were 17 references to adjudication during February and March of 1969 which is about twice as many as there had been in any previous month. There have been 13 filed in April so far.

Mr. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Are you suggesting that there is more trouble in the government? Or does this only mean that they are now becoming aware of the services that you offer and for this reason they are using them more?

[*Interpretation*]

Nos prévisions budgétaires pour 1969-1970 s'élèvent à $1,406,500 comparativement à $1,409,000 en 1968-1969 approuvées l'an dernier. Le changement net est moins de $2,500, ce qui s'explique par les variations à divers postes, certains représentant des augmentations, d'autres des diminutions. Les principales variations qui découlent des augmentations sont: $58,000 pour les traitements, et $13,000 pour les frais de transports et communications.

Les diminutions découlent principalement des diminutions sous la rubrique «toutes autres dépenses pour:»

Les membres de commissions	$ 35,000
Arbitrage et conciliation	20,000
Adjudication	19,000

Les années-hommes autorisées pour 1969-1970 sont de 100. L'année dernière elles étaient de 111.

A la fin de mars de la présente année, le personnel total était de 90.

Le président: Vous avez entendu la déclaration d'ouverture, monsieur Thomson: Avez-vous quelque question?

M. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Si j'ai bien compris, monsieur le président, cette loi est très nouvelle. Vous êtes ici depuis un an environ?

M. Finkelman: Depuis un peu plus de deux ans.

M. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Qui s'occupait de ce genre de travail auparavant?

M. Finkelman: Il y avait un système auparavant que je connais assez mal grâce auquel je crois, la Commission de la Fonction publique présentait des propositions au gouvernement. Il n'y avait pas de système de négociations collectives aux termes de cette loi.

M. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Avez-vous entendu beaucoup de griefs?

M. Finkelman: Je ne sais trop comment répondre à votre question. Il y a eu environ 38 renvois à l'adjudication pour la première année financière et 64 cette année. Le nombre va croissant. Il y a eu 17 renvois à l'adjudication en février-mars 1969, ce qui est deux fois plus que tout mois précédent. Il y en a eu 13 de déposés en avril, jusqu'ici.

M. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Est-ce que vous voulez dire qu'il y a plus de conflits dans la fonction publique? Ou est-ce que cela veut dire simplement qu'on commence seulement à se rendre compte des services que vous offrez et pour cette raison est-ce qu'on les utilise davantage?

[*Texte*]

Mr. Finkelman: I would not say that there is more trouble in the government. I think to some extent the number of grievances has been increasing by reason of the fact that the public servants are becoming aware of the rights they have. And in addition to that, a growing number of grievances are coming up as a result of collective bargaining. Prior to the execution of collective agreements, the only right employees had under this legislation was to bring to adjudication grievances that related to disciplinary action. Now they have the right to bring grievances related to the interpretation or application of a collective agreement.

Mr. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Mr. Chairman, I did not mean government. I meant the public service.

• 1645

You say that there is a growing sense of collective bargaining within the public service.

Mr. Finkelman: Oh yes, very definitely. And they have rights under the collective agreement which they can now bring to adjudication. Take the situation before the collective agreement was signed. An employee is denied overtime or feels that he is aggrieved by reason of denial of leave or something of that sort. Prior to the execution of a collective agreement relating to and binding upon this person, he would have no right to refer the matter to third-party adjudication. Once an agreement is signed and there is a clause relating to such a matter, he has the right to refer the matter to third-party adjudication. Prior to that all he could do was to bring it up to the final step in the grievance procedure which was the deputy head, and the deputy head's decision was binding, and he could not go beyond that.

Mr. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): I have one more question, Mr. Chairman. Do you have contact with any provincial civil service? Are there any requests for information in regard to your work from any provincial government in Canada?

Mr. Finkelman: Oh yes, we have had requests from most of the provinces. Over the period since we were established we have had many conferences with persons who have come to Ottawa to seek information on how our legislation is working.

Mr. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Are you also trying to arbitrate the differences in the provincial civil service?

Mr. Finkelman: No sir, we have enough on our hands at the moment.

[*Interprétation*]

M. Finkelman: Je ne dirais pas qu'il y a plus de conflits au gouvernement. Je crois que dans une certaines mesure le nombre de griefs augmente par suite du fait que les fonctionnaires sont de plus en plus au courant des droits dont ils jouissent. En outre, les griefs augmentent du fait des négociations collectives. Avant l'introduction des conventions collectives, les seuls droits dont bénéficiaient les fonctionnaires étaient de se soumettre à l'adjudication des griefs fondés sur des interventions disciplinaires. On a maintenant le droit de présenter des griefs fondés sur l'interprétation ou l'application d'une convention collective.

M. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Monsieur le président, je ne parlais pas du gouvernement, je parlais de la Fonction publique. Cependant, vous nous dites qu'il y a une reconnaissance de plus en plus croissante de la convention collective au sein de la Fonction publique.

M. Finkelman: Bien sûr, en effet. Ils ont des droits aux termes des conventions collectives qu'ils peuvent maintenant soumettre à l'adjudication. Prenez la situation avant que l'on signe la convention collective. Supposons qu'on prive l'employé d'une paie supplémentaire, ou de ses vacances ou quelque chose de ce genre. Avant que la convention collective ait été signée, qui se rapporte et qui lie une personne, il n'aurait pas eu le droit de se porter en appel devant l'adjudication d'un tiers. Une fois que la convention collective est signée et qu'il y a une clause qui vise cette question, il a le droit de se pourvoir en appel devant un tiers. Auparavant, tout ce qu'il pouvait faire, c'était de franchir, c'était d'aller jusqu'au sous-ministre dont la décision était sans appel.

M. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): J'ai une question de plus, monsieur le président. Est-ce que vous avez des contacts avec la Fonction publique des gouvernements provinciaux? Est-ce qu'on vous demande des renseignements en ce qui concerne votre travail de quelque gouvernement provincial au Canada?

M. Finkelman: Oui, certainement. Nous avons eu des demandes de la plupart des provinces. Depuis que nous existons nous avons eu un grand nombre de conférences avec des particuliers qui sont venus à Ottawa pour savoir comment fonctionnent nos lois.

M. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Est-ce que vous n'essayez pas d'arbitrer les divergences de vue à l'intérieur des fonctions publiques provinciales?

M. Finkelman: Non, monsieur, nous avons assez de pain sur la planche en ce moment.

[*Text*]

Mr. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): I will pass for now. Thank you.

Mr. Finkelman: I can expand my answer to your last question by saying that we have had requests for information not only from the various provinces in Canada but also from the United States and recently even from Japan.

The Chairman: Mr. Alkenbrack.

Mr. Alkenbrack: I pass as a former civil servant, I am quite in agreement with everything you have said.

The Chairman: Mr. Portelance.

M. Portelance: Monsieur le président, je remarque qu'en 1968-1969, les cotisations au Compte de pension de retraite s'élevaient à $51,400, maintenant, alors qu'on prévoit pour cette année une somme de $130,300. Pourrions-nous avoir plus d'explications à ce sujet?

M. G.-E. Gauthier, (vice-président, Commission des Relations de travail dans la Fonction publique): Ces chiffres nous sont fournis par le ministère des Finances, qui se base sans aucun doute sur les salaires que nous payons. Pour certaines dépenses, nous devons payer à d'autres ministères et dans ce cas, nous payons au ministère des Finances.

M. Portelance: C'est de là que vient l'augmentation de...

L'augmentation des pensions des personnes retraitées de la Fonction publique, vous concerne-t-elle aussi?

M. Gauthier: Non.

M. Portelance: Merci.

Le président: Monsieur Trudel.

M. Trudel: Monsieur le président, on a indiqué 38 griefs pour 1967-1968, 64 pour en 1968-1969. Quelle semble être la principale raison invoquée? Y a-t-il eu une répétition qui s'est produite au cours des deux années où on a eu des griefs à régler?

M. Gauthier: L'augmentation des griefs résulte des nouveaux droits qu'ont les employés et qu'ils n'avaient pas dans le passé. De plus, les conventions collectives sont nouvelles et de plus en plus nombreuses; et certains griefs résultent de ces conventions. Comme c'est un nouveau système, nous avons plus de conventions collectives cette année qu'auparavant, et c'est l'une des raisons de l'augmentation.

[*Interpretation*]

M. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): C'est tout pour le moment. Merci.

M. Finkelman: Du reste, je pourrais ajouter ceci pour développer la réponse à votre dernière question en disant que nous avons eu des demandes de renseignements non seulement de diverses provinces du Canada, mais aussi des États-Unis et récemment, même du Japon.

Le président: Monsieur Alkenbrack.

M. Alkenbrack: Je n'ai pas de question à poser. En tant qu'ancien fonctionnaire, je suis certainement en accord avec tout ce que vous avez dit.

Le président: Monsieur Portelance.

Mr. Portelance: Mr. Chairman, I notice that $51,400 have been paid into the Pension Fund in 1968-69, while this year we expect to collect $130,300. Could you give us some further information about this?

Mr. G.-E. Gauthier (Vice Chairman, Public Service Staff Relations Board): These figures are provided to us by the Department of Finance. They are no doubt based on the salaries we pay. For certain expenditures we must pay other Departments, and in this case we pay to the Department of Finance.

Mr. Portelance: This is where the increase comes from...

Does the increase in pensions of retired Civil servants also concern you?

Mr. Gauthier: No, that is no concern of ours.

Mr. Portelance: Thank you.

The Chairman: Mr. Trudel.

Mr. Trudel: Mr. Chairman, there are 38 grievances listed for 1967-68, and 64 for 1968-69. What seems to be the main reason? Has there been any repetition during the two years in which grievances had to be settled?

Mr. Gauthier: The increase in grievances results from the newly acquired rights by employees that they did not enjoy in the past. Moreover, collective agreements are new and on the increase, and certain grievances result from the application of these collective agreements. This is a new system. There are more collective agreements in force this year than previously, and that is one of the reasons of the increase.

[*Texte*]

M. Trudel: Ce qui me préoccupe, monsieur le président, ce n'est pas l'augmentation que je trouve normale d'après les explications qu'on nous a données, mais je voudrais savoir s'il y a un modèle qui se dessine, si les mêmes griefs reviennent souvent.

M. Gauthier: Dans certains cas, oui.

M. Trudel: Pourrais-je savoir quel est le grief principal ou le grief qui est apparu le plus souvent depuis la création de la Commission?

M. Gauthier: Principalement, sans aucun doute, la question de discipline.

M. Trudel: Bon. Une autre question, monsieur le président. On a établi sans difficulté, je pense, qu'il y a augmentation de travail. Maintenant, si je regarde les prévisions il y a diminution d'employés.

Il me semble anormal que, si le travail a pratiquement doublé comme le montrent les chiffres qu'on nous a fournis, on diminue le nombre d'employés.

M. Gauthier: Voulez-vous m'indiquer les chiffres?

M. Trudel: Vous aviez 69 pour l'an dernier et vous avez 65 pour cette année.

Le président: À quelle page êtes-vous, monsieur Trudel?

M. Trudel: À la page 303.

M. Gauthier: Les chiffres, que vous avez mentionnés, indiquent le nombre de positions de cet établissement. Il y a une diminution de positions, mais certaines de ces positions étaient vacantes.

M. Trudel: Ah bon! Maintenant, malgré ces deux colonnes de chiffres que nous avons devant nous, il est possible qu'il y ait eu une augmentation d'employés quand même?

M. Gauthier: Oui.

M. Trudel: Merci, monsieur le président.

Le président: Avez-vous d'autres questions, messieurs?

Are there any other questions?

Mr. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Have you gentlemen any comment on the Air Canada strike?

Mr. Finkelman: This is not within our jurisdiction.

Mr. Alkenbrack: Gentlemen, the witness means that they do not have any jurisdiction over employees of Crown corporations.

[*Interprétation*]

Mr. Trudel: What I am concerned about, Mr. Chairman, is not the increase, which I find quite normal according to the information that has been given to us, but I would like to know if there is any kind of pattern taking shape, if there is any repetition of the same type of grievances.

Mr. Gauthier: In certain cases, yes.

Mr. Trudel: Would it be possible to know what is the main grievance or the grievance which came up most often since the creation of the Commission?

Mr. Gauthier: Mainly, no doubt, matters of discipline.

Mr. Trudel: All right. I have another question, Mr. Chairman. It has been established beyond all doubt, I think, that there has been an increase in the work load. Now, if I look at the Estimates, there has been a reduction in the staff.

It does seem abnormal that, if the workload has practically doubled as shown by the figures provided to us, the number of employees has been decreased.

Mr. Gauthier: Could you show me the figures?

Mr. Trudel: You had 69 last year, and this year, you have 65.

The Chairman: On what page are you?

Mr. Trudel: On page 303.

Mr. Gauthier: The figures you have mentioned indicate the number of positions in that establishment. There is a reduction in the number of positions, but some of these positions were vacant.

Mr. Trudel: Yes, I see. Now in spite of the two columns of figures before us, it is nevertheless possible that there has been an increase in employees?

Mr. Gauthier: Yes.

Mr. Trudel: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

The Chairman: Any other questions, gentlemen?

Y a-t-il d'autres questions, messieurs?

M. Thomson (Bettleford-Kindersley): Est-ce que vous avez des observations à faire en ce qui concerne la grève d'Air Canada?

M. Finkelman: Cela n'est pas de notre compétence.

M. Alkenbrack: Messieurs, le témoin veut dire qu'il n'a pas juridiction sur les employés des sociétés de la Couronne.

[*Text*]

Mr. Finkelman: Some crown corporations.

Mr. Alkenbrack: But not that one.

The Chairman: Which Crown corporations do you have jurisdiction over?

Mr. Finkelman: There is a list in the schedule to the Act itself. You will find that in the pamphlet copy of the Act on page 792. There is the Atomic Energy Control Board, the Centennial Commission, the Defence Research Board, the Economic Council of Canada, the Fisheries Research Board, the National Film Board, the National Research Council, Northern Canada Power Commission and a number of others.

The Chairman: Are there any other questions, gentlemen?

Mr. Finkelman, I wish to thank you and your officers very much. We cannot carry your vote now because we do not have a quorum. However, at the next meeting we hope to have a quorum and we will then call your vote. I do not think you will have to return as witnesses. Thank you very much.

Next is the Public Service Commission.

M—PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

80 Salaries and Contingencies of the Commission including Compensation in accordance with the Incentive Award Plan of the Public Service of Canada and the costs of the Public Service Bilingual and Bicultural Development Program . . . . . .$14,671,000.

85 Construction or Acquisition of Buildings, Works, Land and Equipment including the Public Service Bilingual and Bicultural Development Program $90,000

• 1655

Gentlemen, we have the officers of the Public Service Commission here and I would ask Mr. J. J. Carson, the Chairman, to make an opening statement.

Mr. J. J. Carson (Chairman, Public Service Commission): Mr. Chairman, once again my fellow commissioners, Dr. Labonté being one of them, and I are delighted to have a chance to tell your Committee about the work of the Commission and to try to answer any questions that you have.

[*Interpretation*]

M. Finkelman: Certaines sociétés de la Couronne.

M. Alkenbrack: Pas celle-ci.

Le président: Quelles compagnies de la Couronne relèvent de votre compétence?

M. Finkelman: Il y a une liste à l'annexe de la Loi elle-même; vous la trouverez dans la Loi, à la page 792. Il y a la Commission de contrôle de l'énergie atomique, la Commission du centenaire, le Conseil de recherches pour la défense, le Conseil économique du Canada, l'Office des recherches sur les pêcheries, l'Office national du film, le Conseil national de recherches, la Commission d'énergie du Nord canadien, et un certain nombre d'autres.

Le président: Est-ce qu'il y a d'autres questions, messieurs?

M. Finkelman, je voudrais vous remercier, vous et vos fonctionnaires. Nous ne pouvons pas adopter votre crédit dès maintenant, car nous n'avons pas le quorum. Mais à notre prochaine séance nous espérons avoir le quorum, et nous remettrons votre crédit en délibération. Vous n'aurez pas, que je sache, à revenir témoigner. Merci beaucoup.

Nous allons maintenant passer à la Commission de la Fonction publique.

M—COMMISSION DE LA FONCTION PUBLIQUE

80 Traitements et éventualités de la Commission, y compris les gratifications accordées en vertu du Programme des primes à l'initiative du Service public du Canada et du Programme destiné à améliorer le bilinguisme et le biculturalisme dans la fonction publique $14,671,000

85 Construction ou acquisition de bâtiments, ouvrages, terrains et matériel, y compris le Programme destiné à améliorer le bilinguisme et le biculturalisme dans la fonction publique $90,000

Messieurs, nous avons avec nous des fonctionnaires de la Commission de la Fonction publique, et je prierais le président, M. J. J. Carson, de nous faire un exposé préliminaire.

M. J. J. Carson (président de la Commission de la Fonction publique): Monsieur le président, une fois de plus, mes collègues commissaires, dont M. Labonté, et moi-même, sommes ravis de l'occasion qui nous est offerte de dire à votre Comité ce que fait la Commission de la Fonction publique. Il nous fera plaisir aussi de répondre aux questions que vous voudrez bien nous poser.

[*Texte*]

As you know, the Commission operates under the terms of the Public Service Employment Act which was passed in April 1967 as part of a major reorganization of the personnel function in the federal service. Prior to that time the old Civil Service Commission had responsibilities for a wide-ranging number of items in the personnel field, nany of which more legitimately were transferred to the Treasury Board and to the Public Service Staff Relations Board whom you have just heard from.

Since 1967 the Commission has been charged with really five major activities. The largest and our historic main function is the staffing of the public service. This is the whole process of recruitment, selection, promotion, transfer and career planning. In recent years we have also taken on a major responsibility for the language training of the federal public service. We now have a language branch which represents a very substantial portion of our budget and it is expanding at an even faster rate than it has in the past. In addition we have responsibility for providing training and development services to all departments of government and to operate training programs at the request of departments. We also have a continuing function in the hearing of appeals from public servants in respect to promotional decisions that have been made. This is the major range of the Commission's activity. During the last year the function of the Bureau of Management Consulting Services which we historically had was transferred to the new department of Supply and Services.

You will notice from our estimates that the budgeted amount for the staffing function is down. The number of employees involved in this function has been reduced as of April 1 this year because we are attempting to delegate out to the departments of government a good deal of the recruitment, selection and promotion function in respect of the operational category and in the administrative support category.

It is the Commission's conviction that staffing decisions should be made as close as possible to the place where the need exists for employees and we are therefore under carefully controlled conditions and under a monetary procedure delegating out to

• 1700

departments a very substantial portion of the staffing function. In this way we have been able to reduce our own staff accordingly. At the same time in order to cope with the very major demand for language training, both in English and in French, in the Public Service we have expanded our language training facilities. We have also expanded our general training and development programs.

[*Interprétation*]

Vous n'ignorez pas que la Commission fonctionne en vertu de la Loi sur l'emploi dans la Fonction publique, adoptée en avril 1967, dans le cadre d'une réorganisation générale du personnel de la Fonction publique. Antérieurement, l'ancienne Commission du Service civil avait des attributions très étendues et très variées en ce qui concerne le personnel, dont plusieurs ont été confiées à la Commission des relations de travail dans la Fonction publique dont vous venez d'entendre parler, et au Conseil du Trésor, ce qui est parfaitement normal.

Depuis 1967, l'activité de la Commission s'est répartie entre cinq grandes rubriques. Notre grande et première fonction, traditionnellement du reste, est le recrutement dans la Fonction publique. Il s'agit du recrutement, de la sélection, des mutations et de l'organisation des carrières. Ces dernières années, nous nous sommes aussi chargés de la grande tâche qu'est l'enseignement des langues à la Fonction publique. Nous avons actuellement une direction des langues qui prend une partie considérable de notre budget et qui prend plus rapidement que par le passé des proportions sans cesse plus considérables. En outre, nos attributions nous obligent à assurer des services de formation et de perfectionnement à tous les ministères et à mettre sur pied des programmes de formation, à la demande des ministères. Nous entendons aussi les appels des fonctionnaires qui se croient victimes, qui se croient lésés en ce qui concerne l'avancement. C'est un domaine très important pour la Commission. L'année dernière, le Bureau des conseillers en gestion, qui relevait de la Commission traditionnellement, a été confié au nouveau ministère des Approvisionnements et Services.

Vous verrez, d'après nos crédits, que le crédit du point de vue du recrutement est moindre. Le nombre d'employés à cet égard a été diminué à compter du premier avril de la présente année, parce que nous essayons de déléguer aux divers ministères une bonne partie de nos fonctions relatives au recrutement, à la sélection et à l'avancement, dans les catégories de l'exploitation et du soutien administratif.

La Commission est persuadée que les décisions à cet égard doivent être prises par les premiers intéressés, c'est-à-dire ceux qui seront en contact le plus étroit avec l'employé. Cela doit se faire selon des procédures bien établies et bien surveillées. Nous déléguons, dans ces conditions, une partie de nos fonctions de recrutement au ministère, ce qui nous a permis de diminuer notre propre personnel. En même temps, cependant, pour répondre à la très forte demande d'enseignement des langues, du français et de l'anglais, à l'intérieur de la Fonction publique, nous avons augmenté nos installations à cet égard. Nous avons aussi développé nos programmes de formation générale et de perfectionnement. Nous

[*Text*]

Mr. Chairman, we are at your disposal to answer any questions which you might want to put to us.

The Chairman: Are there any questions?

Mr. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Mr. Chairman, you cannot be around Ottawa very long until you come in contact with some civil servants and you are not in contact with them very long—particularly when they know you are an MP—until some of them are leaning on you a bit and bending your ear about their problems. For example, civil servants have complained to me that they have taken the two-language course and then they have not been used. I wonder if you would care to comment on this. When you allow or encourage someone to take the two-language training course is there some area where they can be utilized right away or is it done because they want to take it?

Mr. Carson: It is a combination of both things. A rather complicated set of priorities have been worked out, and they are constantly under revision, for admission to language training. You will recognize, having grown from a group of 64 students in 1964 to roughly 5,000, I guess it was this past year that we have had to engage in some trial and error activity.

Certainly the objective is to have language training available to those people who either need it immediately or in the foresseeable future. We start out by giving the highest priority to the executive category, the administrative and foreign service category, followed by those members of the professional and scientific category who will be in a position where they will have to supervise unilingual employees in both French and English.

We have not stuck rigidly to these priorities because we felt that the departments should take some part in saying that they very much want a certain individual trained now. So, we have had quite a variety of people in language training with an assortment of requirements. Undoubtedly some of them have returned to their jobs anxiously wanting to make immediate use of this new capacity that they have developed and they find in the particular work situation they are in that they would have to go scratching to find opportunities. Of course, this is changing steadily as more and more people go through language training, and we have been successful in attracting more and more bilingual people to the Ottawa scene to work.

In the past our problem has been our inability to make the federal scene a sufficiently congenial place for Francophones. Many of them have preferred to remain in communities where they could work and

[*Interpretation*]

sommes maintenant, monsieur le président, à votre entière disposition pour répondre à toutes les questions que vous voudrez bien nous poser.

Le président: Est-ce qu'on a des questions à poser?

M. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Monsieur le président, il suffit de passer quelque temps à Ottawa pour être en contact avec les fonctionnaires. Il suffit que l'on sache que vous êtes député d'ailleurs pour que certains fonctionnaires commencent à vous raconter leurs doléances. Ainsi, certains fonctionnaires se plaignent d'avoir été obligés de suivre le cours de langue alors qu'ils n'ont jamais à s'en servir. Pourriez-vous faire un commentaire à ce sujet? Quand vous permettez ou quand vous demandez à quelqu'un de s'inscrire au cours de langue, n'y a-t-il pas moyen de permettre aux fonctionnaires de s'en servir ou n'apprennent-ils une seconde langue que parce qu'ils le veulent?

M. Carson: Les deux éléments interviennent ici. Il y a un système de priorité assez compliqué que nous avons mis au point et que nous revisons du reste sans cesse en ce qui concerne l'admission au cours de langue. Le nombre des inscriptions est passé de 64 en 1964 à environ 5000 l'an dernier, et vous reconnaîtrez que nous risquions d'avoir une certaine marge d'erreur.

Évidemment, notre objectif est de dispenser une formation linguistique à ceux qui en ont besoin, dans l'immédiat ou dans un avenir prévisible. Nous accordons la priorité absolue à la catégorie dite exécutive; viennent ensuite la catégorie administrative et le service étranger, puis les membres de la catégorie professionnelle et scientifique, qui pourront surveiller des employés unilingues français ou anglais.

Nous ne nous en sommes pas tenus rigoureusement à ces priorités car, nous avons pensé que les ministères devraient avoir leur mot à dire dans le choix de tel ou tel fonctionnaire qu'ils aimeraient envoyer immédiatement au cours. Ainsi, les personnes qui se sont inscrites à nos cours de langue appartiennent à toutes sortes de catégories. Il est sûr qu'un certain nombre d'entre elles après avoir réintégré leurs fonctions tenaient énormément à mettre en pratique leurs nouvelles possibilités. Mais elles se sont rendues compte que les occasions qui leur ont été offertes d'utiliser l'autre langue sont assez rares. Évidemment, tout cela change assez rapidement, au fur et à mesure qu'un plus grand nombre de personnes suivent ces cours de langue, et nous avons réussi à attirer un nombre assez considérable de fonctionnaires bilingues à Ottawa.

Dans le passé, nous avons été dans l'incapacité de rendre la fonction publique fédérale attrayante pour les francophones. Un grand nombre d'entre eux ont préféré rester dans des endroits où il leur était possi-

[*Texte*]

live in their mother tongue. As the situation changes here it is becoming much easier for Anglophones, for example, to find opportunities to communicate with Francophones in the work situation with their new-found language capacity, and similarly of course the reverse is true for Francophones.

It is not an ideal situation at the present moment and we are hastening to correct it as fast as we can because the objective is to have all work in the National Capital area done on a passably bilingual basis, with every public servant feeling free to work and communicate in his mother tongue, confident that he is going to be understood, but we are still some distance from that situation.

Mr. Thomson (Battleford Kindersley): Have you experimented in any quick or easy method of teach-

• 1705

ing one language or the other? I have not taken my course yet and that is why I was wondering.

Mr. Carson: I will turn to my colleague, Dr. Labonté. He is an expert in this field.

Dr. Y. Labonté (Commissioner, Public Service Commission): Frankly, the method that we are using at the moment is a method that has been proven in France and we have tried to adapt it to our particular needs. Of course, this is a matter that requires continual experimentation. I do not think there is any real quick way to learn a language, to learn it in a nutshell, there is no method like that. I think it necessarily takes time.

Mr. Thomson (Battleford Kindersley): I have a further question in this area, Mr. Chairman. Does reading ability help, for example, if you are quite conversant in either English or French? Does this add to the facility with which you transfer into another language? If you are a good reader or if it comes by you easily, does it seem to matter?

Dr. Labonté: That it helps if you are a good reader? I think it helps you to learn but . . .

Mr. Thomson (Battleford Kindersley): You learn more quickly?

Dr. Labonté: Probably, yes.

Mr. Thomson (Battleford Kindersley): It is still difficult. Mr. Chairman, I will pass and come back later.

The Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Thomson. There is something I omitted to do at the beginning. Mr. Carson, would you please introduce the officers who are with you this afternoon?

[*Interprétation*]

ble de vivre et de travailler dans leur langue maternelle. Au fur et à mesure que cette situation évolue, il devient de plus en plus facile pour les anglophones de trouver des occasions de communiquer avec les Francophones dans la langue de ces derniers, et inversement.

La situation n'est pas idéale. Actuellement nous la corrigeons aussi rapidement que possible, notre objectif étant que le travail qui s'effectue dans la région de la capitale nationale se fasse dans les deux langues. Tous les fonctionnaires devraient être libres de travailler et de communiquer dans leur langue maternelle, avec l'assurance qu'ils seront compris. Toutefois, nous en sommes encore loin.

M. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Avez-vous expérimenté des méthodes faciles et rapides d'ensei-

gnement des langues; je n'ai pas encore suivi mon cours, et c'est pourquoi je me pose la question.

M. Carson: Je réfère votre question au docteur Labonté. Il est expert en la matière.

M. Y. Labonté (Commissaire de la Fonction publique): La méthode que nous avons en ce moment est une méthode qui a été mise au point en France et que nous nous sommes efforcés d'adapter à nos besoins particuliers. Il s'agit évidemment d'un programme en évolution permanente. Je ne pense pas qu'il existe une façon vraiment rapide d'apprendre une langue, de l'assimiler en quelque sorte instantanément. Ces méthodes n'existent pas: il faut du temps.

M. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Une autre question, monsieur le président, est-ce que la capacité de lecture peut vous être utile pour apprendre le français ou l'anglais? Est-ce que cela vous aide à parler une autre langue? Si on lit bien, ou si la lecture nous paraît facile, le travail en est-il facilité?

M. Labonté: Cela vous aide à apprendre, mais . . .

M. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): On apprend plus facilement.

M. Labonté: Oui, probablement.

M. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Mais c'est encore difficile. Monsieur le président, je reviendrai plus tard.

Le président: Merci M. Thomson. J'ai oublié quelque chose au début. Je demanderai à M. Carson de bien vouloir présenter les fonctionnaires qui l'accompagnent.

[*Text*]

Mr. Chairman, we are at your disposal to answer any questions which you might want to put to us.

The Chairman: Are there any questions?

Mr. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Mr. Chairman, you cannot be around Ottawa very long until you come in contact with some civil servants and you are not in contact with them very long—particularly when they know you are an MP—until some of them are leaning on you a bit and bending your ear about their problems. For example, civil servants have complained to me that they have taken the two-language course and then they have not been used. I wonder if you would care to comment on this. When you allow or encourage someone to take the two-language training course is there some area where they can be utilized right away or is it done because they want to take it?

Mr. Carson: It is a combination of both things. A rather complicated set of priorities have been worked out, and they are constantly under revision, for admission to language training. You will recognize, having grown from a group of 64 students in 1964 to roughly 5,000, I guess it was this past year that we have had to engage in some trial and error activity.

Certainly the objective is to have language training available to those people who either need it immediately or in the foresseeable future. We start out by giving the highest priority to the executive category, the administrative and foreign service category, followed by those members of the professional and scientific category who will be in a position where they will have to supervise unilingual employees in both French and English.

We have not stuck rigidly to these priorities because we felt that the departments should take some part in saying that they very much want a certain individual trained now. So, we have had quite a variety of people in language training with an assortment of requirements. Undoubtedly some of them have returned to their jobs anxiously wanting to make immediate use of this new capacity that they have developed and they find in the particular work situation they are in that they would have to go scratching to find opportunities. Of course, this is changing steadily as more and more people go through language training, and we have been successful in attracting more and more bilingual people to the Ottawa scene to work.

In the past our problem has been our inability to make the federal scene a sufficiently congenial place for Francophones. Many of them have preferred to remain in communities where they could work and

[*Interpretation*]

sommes maintenant, monsieur le président, à votre entière disposition pour répondre à toutes les questions que vous voudrez bien nous poser.

Le président: Est-ce qu'on a des questions à poser?

M. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Monsieur le président, il suffit de passer quelque temps à Ottawa pour être en contact avec les fonctionnaires. Il suffit que l'on sache que vous êtes député d'ailleurs pour que certains fonctionnaires commencent à vous raconter leurs doléances. Ainsi, certains fonctionnaires se plaignent d'avoir été obligés de suivre le cours de langue alors qu'ils n'ont jamais à s'en servir. Pourriez-vous faire un commentaire à ce sujet? Quand vous permettez ou quand vous demandez à quelqu'un de s'inscrire au cours de langue, n'y a-t-il pas moyen de permettre aux fonctionnaires de s'en servir ou n'apprennent-ils une seconde langue que parce qu'ils le veulent?

M. Carson: Les deux éléments interviennent ici. Il y a un système de priorité assez compliqué que nous avons mis au point et que nous revisons du reste sans cesse en ce qui concerne l'admission au cours de langue. Le nombre des inscriptions est passé de 64 en 1964 à environ 5000 l'an dernier, et vous reconnaîtrez que nous risquions d'avoir une certaine marge d'erreur.

Évidemment, notre objectif est de dispenser une formation linguistique à ceux qui en ont besoin, dans l'immédiat ou dans un avenir prévisible. Nous accordons la priorité absolue à la catégorie dite exécutive; viennent ensuite la catégorie administrative et le service étranger, puis les membres de la catégorie professionnelle et scientifique, qui pourront surveiller des employés unilingues français ou anglais.

Nous ne nous en sommes pas tenus rigoureusement à ces priorités car, nous avons pensé que les ministères devraient avoir leur mot à dire dans le choix de tel ou tel fonctionnaire qu'ils aimeraient envoyer immédiatement au cours. Ainsi, les personnes qui se sont inscrites à nos cours de langue appartiennent à toutes sortes de catégories. Il est sûr qu'un certain nombre d'entre elles après avoir réintégré leurs fonctions tenaient énormément à mettre en pratique leurs nouvelles possibilités. Mais elles se sont rendues compte que les occasions qui leur ont été offertes d'utiliser l'autre langue sont assez rares. Évidemment, tout cela change assez rapidement, au fur et à mesure qu'un plus grand nombre de personnes suivent ces cours de langue, et nous avons réussi à attirer un nombre assez considérable de fonctionnaires bilingues à Ottawa.

Dans le passé, nous avons été dans l'incapacité de rendre la fonction publique fédérale attrayante pour les francophones. Un grand nombre d'entre eux ont préféré rester dans des endroits où il leur était possi-

[*Texte*]

live in their mother tongue. As the situation changes here it is becoming much easier for Anglophones, for example, to find opportunities to communicate with Francophones in the work situation with their new-found language capacity, and similarly of course the reverse is true for Francophones.

It is not an ideal situation at the present moment and we are hastening to correct it as fast as we can because the objective is to have all work in the National Capital area done on a passably bilingual basis, with every public servant feeling free to work and communicate in his mother tongue, confident that he is going to be understood, but we are still some distance from that situation.

Mr. Thomson (Battleford Kindersley): Have you experimented in any quick or easy method of teach-

• 1705

ing one language or the other? I have not taken my course yet and that is why I was wondering.

Mr. Carson: I will turn to my colleague, Dr. Labonté. He is an expert in this field.

Dr. Y. Labonté (Commissioner, Public Service Commission): Frankly, the method that we are using at the moment is a method that has been proven in France and we have tried to adapt it to our particular needs. Of course, this is a matter that requires continual experimentation. I do not think there is any real quick way to learn a language, to learn it in a nutshell, there is no method like that. I think it necessarily takes time.

Mr. Thomson (Battleford Kindersley): I have a further question in this area, Mr. Chairman. Does reading ability help, for example, if you are quite conversant in either English or French? Does this add to the facility with which you transfer into another language? If you are a good reader or if it comes by you easily, does it seem to matter?

Dr. Labonté: That it helps if you are a good reader? I think it helps you to learn but . . .

Mr. Thomson (Battleford Kindersley): You learn more quickly?

Dr. Labonté: Probably, yes.

Mr. Thomson (Battleford Kindersley): It is still difficult. Mr. Chairman, I will pass and come back later.

The Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Thomson. There is something I omitted to do at the beginning. Mr. Carson, would you please introduce the officers who are with you this afternoon?

[*Interprétation*]

ble de vivre et de travailler dans leur langue maternelle. Au fur et à mesure que cette situation évolue, il devient de plus en plus facile pour les anglophones de trouver des occasions de communiquer avec les Francophones dans la langue de ces derniers, et inversement.

La situation n'est pas idéale. Actuellement nous la corrigeons aussi rapidement que possible, notre objectif étant que le travail qui s'effectue dans la région de la capitale nationale se fasse dans les deux langues. Tous les fonctionnaires devraient être libres de travailler et de communiquer dans leur langue maternelle, avec l'assurance qu'ils seront compris. Toutefois, nous en sommes encore loin.

M. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Avez-vous expérimenté des méthodes faciles et rapides d'ensei-

gnement des langues; je n'ai pas encore suivi mon cours, et c'est pourquoi je me pose la question.

M. Carson: Je réfère votre question au docteur Labonté. Il est expert en la matière.

M. Y. Labonté (Commissaire de la Fonction publique): La méthode que nous avons en ce moment est une méthode qui a été mise au point en France et que nous nous sommes efforcés d'adapter à nos besoins particuliers. Il s'agit évidemment d'un programme en évolution permanente. Je ne pense pas qu'il existe une façon vraiment rapide d'apprendre une langue, de l'assimiler en quelque sorte instantanément. Ces méthodes n'existent pas: il faut du temps.

M. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Une autre question, monsieur le président, est-ce que la capacité de lecture peut vous être utile pour apprendre le français ou l'anglais? Est-ce que cela vous aide à parler une autre langue? Si on lit bien, ou si la lecture nous paraît facile, le travail en est-il facilité?

M. Labonté: Cela vous aide à apprendre, mais . . .

M. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): On apprend plus facilement.

M. Labonté: Oui, probablement.

M. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Mais c'est encore difficile. Monsieur le président, je reviendrai plus tard.

Le président: Merci M. Thomson. J'ai oublié quelque chose au début. Je demanderai à M. Carson de bien vouloir présenter les fonctionnaires qui l'accompagnent.

[*Text*]

Mr. Carson: I would be delighted, Mr. Chairman. Dr. Y. Labonté is on my immediate right. He is one of the Commissioners. Seated next to him is Mr. A. R. K. Anderson, the Director General of the Staffing Branch of the Commission. Around the table we have Mr. G. A. Blackburn, the Director General, Language Bureau; Mr. R. H. Smith, Director, Financial and Administrative Services Division and Mr. G. G. Duclos, Director General, Bureau of Staff Development and Training.

The Chairman: Thank you.

M. Guay (Lévis): Monsieur le président, j'aimerais savoir quel est le nombre de personnes qui relèvent de la Commission de la fonction publique.

Mr. Carson: There are about 210,000, Mr. Chairman. We do not have jurisdiction over certain exempt agencies such as the National Research Council, the Defence Research Board, the Fisheries Research Board and the National Film Board. As an act of Parliament sets up an agency it defines the appointing authority. It is the Public Service Commission, for the majority of them, but there are a few exceptions.

M. Guay (Lévis): Monsieur le président, je voudrais savoir quelle est la proportion des bilingues parmi les 210,000 ou 220,000.

Mr. Carson: I am embarrassed, Mr. Chairman, because I have to confess that we do not know yet. We are in the process of trying to get this information recorded in our central personnel record system. It has only been in recent years that in our application form we have started to insist that everybody declare their capacity in English and French under the four headings of reading, writing, speaking and comprehending, but we have many, many thousands of public servants who were hired in the days when that information was not recorded.

I am sure that it seems ridiculous to you that we do not have this information, but because these people are scattered over the length and breadth of Canada and around the world it is taking some time for us to get this data computerized so that we can keep it constantly up to date and broken down by departments and by occupational groups.

If I were to tell you that 25 per cent of the public service are bilingual you would then ask me how this is spread out, all these people down at the lower levels or are they at the upper levels, so it is a little meaningless to give a percentage until we can give you a breakdown by occupational group. I can tell

• 1710

you that on the population we can do detailed and quick hand sorts on, for example, the Deputy Minis-

[*Interpretation*]

M. Carson: J'en suis très heureux, monsieur le président. Le docteur Y. Labonté est à ma droite. Il est Commissaire. A sa droite, M. A. R. K. Anderson, directeur général de la Direction des cadres de la Commission. Autour de la table, M. Blackburn, directeur général du Bureau des langues; M. R. F. Smith, directeur de la Division des Services financiers et administratifs, et M. G. G. Duclos, directeur général du Bureau du perfectionnement et de la formation du personnel.

Le président: Merci.

Mr. Guay (Lévis): Mr. Chairman, I would like to know the number of people who come under the Public Service Commission.

M. Carson: Environ 210,000, monsieur le président; nous n'avons pas compétence sur certaines institutions exemptées, comme le Conseil national de recherches, le Conseil de recherches pour la défense, le Conseil de recherches sur les pêcheries, et l'Office national du film. Chaque fois qu'une loi crée une institution, elle établit une autorité chargée des nominations. Dans la grande majorité des cas, il s'agit de la Commission de la Fonction publique, mais il y a quelques exceptions.

Mr. Guay (Lévis): Mr. Chairman, I would like to know the proportion of bilingual people among the 210,000 or 220,000.

M. Carson: Je dois reconnaître que nous n'en savons encore rien. Nous sommes en train de chercher ces renseignements qui figurent dans notre service central des dossiers du personnel. Ce n'est que depuis quelques années que nous demandons, dans nos formules de recrutement, d'indiquer les capacités linguistiques en anglais et en français, sous les 4 rubriques suivantes: lecture, écriture, élocution, compréhension. Toutefois, des milliers de fonctionnaires ont été embauchés à une époque ou ces renseignements n'étaient pas encore inscrits.

Vous trouverez probablement ridicule que nous n'ayons pas ces renseignements, mais ces personnes sont dispersées d'un bout à l'autre du pays et dans le monde entier; il nous faut donc du temps pour programmer toutes ces données, les garder à jour, les répartir par ministère et par catégorie d'occupation.

Si je vous disais que 25 p. 100 de la fonction publique est bilingue, vous me demanderiez quelle est la répartition. Ces gens se trouvent-ils dans les catégories inférieures, ou dans les catégories supérieures? Il ne sert pas à grand-chose de donner un pourcentage, tant que nous n'avons pas de répartition par

catégorie d'occupation. Quant aux groupes restreints, qu'il est facile d'étudier, celui des sous-ministres, par

[*Texte*]

ter's and the executive category, 41 per cent of our Deputy Ministers are non bilingual.

Of course, by 1975 we hope to have 100 per cent.

M. Guay (Lévis): Je vous pose cette question, monsieur le président, parce que tout à l'heure, quand vous avez présenté votre crédit d'environ $14 millions, vous avez dit qu'une grande partie était consacrée à la recherche en ce qui regarde le bilinguisme et le biculturalisme. Vous faites des efforts. Ce n'est pas un reproche que je vous fais; vous m'avez expliqué que c'était énormément difficile. Mais, je me demande si l'effort que vous faites présentement est concentré uniquement sur les nouveaux employés ou les derniers arrivés dans les ministères. Vous dites que vous n'avez pas de chiffres et que vous ne savez pas quelle est la proportion de ceux qui sont bilingues ou unilingues.

Premièrement, monsieur le président, je voudrais savoir quelle est la proportion de ce budget et ce que vous prétendez faire dans l'avenir pour aller chercher ces chiffres et concentrer votre travail pour qu'il soit axé encore davantage sur le bilinguisme.

Mr. Carson: Mr. Chairman, I would be happy to give you some answers and perhaps Dr. Labonté and Mr. Blackburn will help me with this if I do not state it clearly enough. We do know quite a bit about the bilingual requirements of the population in our priority groups in the national capital area.

Last summer we mounted a major testing program to try to find out just how big is the job that we have undertaken, and the best information we have is that there are 16,000 in the national capital area in the executive category, the administrative and foreign service, the professional and scientific and the upper reaches of the technical category, who will require varying degrees of language training. These are either unilingual French, who need some English language capability, or unilingual or partly bilingual anglophones who need French language training. So, we are talking about 16,000 people who will require this training in the next few years.

This does not take into account the operational category and the administrative support. This is the blue collar and gray collar workers and the clerical workers. They would represent, I suppose, in the national capital area approximately another 16,000.

However, in the priority groups, where we really feel that the Public Service has to be able to react to the public and to be able to do business with the public from all parts of Canada, our target is these 16,000 people.

[*Interprétation*]

exemple, ainsi que la catégorie de la direction, 41 p. 100 sont bilingues.

Nous espérons que le chiffre montera à 100 p. 100 d'ici 1975.

Mr. Guay (Lévis): I am asking you that question, Mr. Chairman, because a moment ago, when you presented your estimate of $14 million, you told us that a large part of that was assigned for research in bilingualism and biculturalism. You are making an effort. I lay no blame on anybody. You have told me this is very difficult. But, I am wondering whether the efforts you are making at the present time are concentrated solely on new employees or the recent arrivals in the Departments. You told me you have no figures and that you do not know the proportion of people who are bilingual or unilingual.

First, Mr. Chairman, I would like to know the proportion of that budget and what you intend to do in the future to realize those figures and concentrate your work so that it will be even more oriented towards bilingualism.

M. Carson: Je me ferai un plaisir, monsieur le président, de vous donner quelques réponses. Messieurs Labonté et Blackburn pourront m'aider, si les renseignements que je vous donne ne vous paraissent pas assez clairs. Nous connaissons suffisamment les exigences de la population sur le plan du bilinguisme dans nos groupes prioritaires de la région de la capitale nationale.

L'été dernier, nous avons mis sur pied un grand programme d'essai destiné à savoir exactement quelle était la dimension du travail que nous avons entrepris. Les meilleurs renseignements que nous avons obtenus montrent que dans la région de la capitale nationale, il y a 16,000 personnes dans la catégorie de la direction de la catégorie administrative et au service extérieur, de la catégorie professionnelle et scientifique et les plus hauts échelons de la catégorie technique qui nécessitera divers degrés de formation dans le domaine des langues. Ce sont les francophones unilingues, qui ont besoin d'apprendre l'anglais, ou les unilingues de langue anglaise ou les bilingues partiels qui ont besoin d'être formés à la langue française. 16,000 personnes auront besoin de cette formation au cours des prochaines années.

Cela ne tient pas compte de la catégorie de l'exploitation et du soutien administratif. Les collets bleus et gris et les employés de bureau représenteraient environ 16,000 autres fonctionnaires dans la région de la capitale nationale.

Mais nous visons ces 16,000 fonctionnaires qui font partie, des groupes prioritaires, où nous pensons vraiment que la Fonction publique doit pouvoir répondre aux besoins du public et faire affaire avec le public de toutes les parties du Canada.

[*Text*]

Up to now we are handling roughly 5,000 in language training, and I suppose on average it is taking about three years to take someone from ignorance to bilingual capability. We have a very big job and not one we are going to be able to achieve overnight. Dr. Labonté do you want to add anything to this?

M. Labonté: Je n'ai pas grand chose à ajouter à ce qui vient d'être dit, si ce n'est que cela nous paraîtrait absolument impossible de penser tout de suite aux 210,000 personnes qui sont dans la fonction publique. Il faut nécessairement procéder par tranche et par priorité. C'est la raison pour laquelle nous avons commencé par les catégories les plus élevées. C'est sur la base de ce chiffre que les prévisions budgétaires sont établies.

M. Guay (Lévis): Monsieur Labonté, quelle serait la proportion du budget de $14 millions, qui est consacrée au bilinguisme?

M. Labonté: Il y a $5 millions.

M. Guay (Lévis): J'ai une dernière question. Je me demande, et d'autres députés veulent en parler parce qu'il en a été question assez longuement déjà au Comité, si la Commission de la fonction publique a déjà fait des recommandations pour que les secrétaires des députés puissent profiter et jouir de la prime de 7 p. 100?

Mr. Carson: Mr. Chairman, I was asked about this the last time your Committee reviewed our 1968

• 1715

estimates and I made it clear to the members of the Committee that this was the Speaker's responsibility. Frankly I have been very surprised that the Members of Parliament and the staff on Parliament Hill have not pressed this through to a solution. We only have responsibility for public servants proper, and I think, through many years of experience, the Commission has learned that it should keep its hands off the staff on the Hill. They are the servants of the Hill and so we can really assume no responsibility. I can say to you that I have been surprised that no action has been taken.

Le président: Pour l'information des nouveaux membres du Comité, à l'occasion du dépôt du 7ième rapport du Comité des prévisions budgétaires, 4 recommandations ont été faites par le Comité. Voici la première:

> Que la prime de 7 p. 100 accordée aux employés bilingues qualifiés de la Fonction publique devrait aussi être accordée à tous les employés bilingues de la Chambre des communes.

[*Interpretation*]

Pour l'instant, on dispense l'enseignement des langues à environ 5,000 personnes. Dans l'ensemble, il faut environ 3 ans pour faire passer quelqu'un d'un degré d'ignorance abyssale à une capacité bilingue. C'est une grosse affaire et cela ne se fait pas du jour au lendemain. Monsieur Labonté, désirez-vous ajouter quelque chose à cela?

Dr. Labonté: I do not think I can add much to what has just been said, except that it would appear just about impossible to us when thinking of applying this to these 210,000 civil servants. We have to go by stages and by priorities. That is why we started by the highest categories. It is on the basis of that figure that our estimates are established.

Mr. Guay (Lévis): Dr. Labonté what proportion of this $14 million will be earmarked for bilingualism?

Dr. Labonté: It was $5 million.

Mr. Guay (Lévis): One last question. I wonder whether—and I think others would like to talk about that too, because there has been a good deal made of that in Committee—the Public Service Commission ever made recommendations so that the secretaries of MPs could benefit from the 7 per cent bonus for bilingualism?

M. Carson: La dernière fois que votre Comité a examiné nos prévisions budgétaires de 1968, on m'a posé cette question. J'avais bien fait comprendre alors, je crois, aux membres du Comité, que cela relevait de l'Orateur. En toute franchise, j'ai été fort étonné que les députés et le personnel du Parlement n'aient pas encore trouvé la solution à ce problème. Nous ne sommes responsables que des fonctionnaires proprement dits et, à mon avis, plusieurs années d'expérience ont appris à la Commission de ne pas toucher au personnel de la Colline parlementaire. Ils sont employés par la Chambre et nous ne pouvons donc prendre aucune responsabilité à cet égard. Tout ce que je puis vous dire, c'est que je m'étonne que rien n'ait encore été fait.

The Chairman: For the information of the new members of the Committee on the occasion of the tabling of the seventh report of the Committee on Miscellaneous Estimates, four recommendations were made by that Committee. The first recommendation was as follows:

> That the 7 per cent bonus paid to qualified bilingual employees in the Public Service should be extended as well to all the bilingual employees of the House of Commons.

[*Texte*]

Ce qui comprend, évidemment, les secrétaires des députés, les personnes qui travaillent dans les différents comités comme employés, les gardes de sécurité, etc. Monsieur Portelance?

M. Portelance: Merci, monsieur le président. Monsieur Carson, vous avez dit que 210,000 personnes travaillent pour la Fonction publique. Peut-on savoir quel est le nombre par province de ceux qui travaillent pour la Fonction publique?

Pas nécessairement cet après-midi; vous pourriez fournir les chiffres plus tard, si vous ne les avez pas présentement.

Mr. Carson: Mr. Chairman, we do give this breakdown in our annual report. Our report for 1968 will be tabled with the Members of Parliament in about another two weeks and I would think if the members of the Committee are agreeable, rather than burdening you with the 1967 annual report, I would prefer to have you have the most recent information which will be in your hands in a couple of weeks. This will give a distribution by provinces, by metropolitan areas, by sex, by salary levels and so on.

Mr. Portelance: This will inform a lot of people how many can work for the Canadian government.

J'ai une autre question. Est-ce que votre Commission, par exemple, travaille en coordination avec les centres de la main-d'oeuvre ou doit-on ignorer complètement les centres de la main-d'œuvre? L'orsqu'il y a lieu de combler un emploi, est-ce que les personnes qui sont intéressées à travailler pour vous, doivent passer par les centres de la main-d'œuvre ou aller directement à vous?

Mr. Carson: This depends upon the occupational group that we are talking about. When we delegated the operational category, which represents about 100,000 of the 210,000, to the departments of government we laid on a requirement that they must use the Canada Manpower Centres to do their recruitment, and this is working reasonably well. As a result, we do not accept direct applications from candidates in the operational category, and this is going to become true in the administrative support category; that is, the white collar workers.

When we get into the professional and scientific and the administrative and foreign service categories, the Commission still undertakes all of the recruitment for all departments of government. We are happy to make use of the Manpower Centres but the business of placing advertisements and accepting applications, we undertake ourselves through our offices which are spread across the country.

When we recruit in the United Kingdom or on the continent, as we have to for some very scarce resour-

[*Interprétation*]

Which would include members' secretaries, and all those people who work within various committees, security guards, and so on. Mr. Portelance?

Mr. Portelance: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Carson, you mentioned that 210,000 people are civil servants. Could you tell us what are the figures by province, how many public servants we have by province?

Perhaps not this afternoon, but you might provide the figures later, if you do not have them now.

M. Carson: Oui, nous donnons cette ventilation dans notre rapport annuel. Notre rapport pour l'année 1968 sera soumis aux députés dans deux semaines environ. Si vous me le permettez, au lieu de vous accabler avec le rapport de 1967, je préférerais vous donner les renseignements plus récents qui seront à votre disposition dans une quinzaine de jours. Il y aura une répartition par provinces, par régions métropolitaines, par sexes, par niveaux de salaires, etc.

M. Portelance: Cela renseignera un grand nombre de personnes, sur le nombre de personnes qui peuvent travailler pour le gouvernement canadien.

Another question. Does your Commission work in co-ordination with the Manpower Centres, or do they have to ignore these Manpower Centres completely? When a job is offered, for instance, must interested parties who would like to work for you go directly through Manpower Centres or must they come directly to you?

M. Carson: Cela dépend de la catégorie d'exploitation dont nous parlons. Dans ce que nous avons délégué, la catégorie de l'exploitation qui représente environ 100,000 des 210,000 employés des ministères fédéraux, nous avons exigé qu'ils utilisent les Centres de la main-d'œuvre du Canada pour faire leur recrutement, ce qui donne d'assez bons résultats. Il en résulte que nous n'acceptons pas de demandes directes de candidats dans la catégorie de l'exploitation, ce qui va d'ailleurs s'appliquer bientôt à la catégorie du soutien administratif, qui compte les collets blancs.

Pour les catégories scientifiques et professionnelles, et la catégorie administrative et du service extérieur, la Commission s'occupera du recrutement pour tous les ministères. Nous sommes heureux de pouvoir utiliser les Centres de la main-d'œuvre, mais la publication des annonces et l'acceptation des demandes sont assurées par nous, par le truchement de nos divers bureaux d'un bout à l'autre du pays.

Lorsque nous recrutons au Royaume-Uni ou sur le continent européen, chose que nous devions faire en

[*Text*]

ces, we always make use of the Manpower and Immigration people outside of this country.

The relationship between the Canada Manpower Centres and the Commission has been growing closer and closer. We just wish they could take on more of the work that we are doing.

As a matter of fact, I think the only reason that we have not been able to delegate more of the administrative support category is the difficulty the

● 1720

Canada Manpower Centres have had in taking on that added load as quickly as we would have liked them to. But, certainly, it is our objective to get as much of this out into their hands as we possibly can, so that the federal government is not duplicating its efforts in various parts of the country.

M. Portelance: Merci.

Mr. Alkenbrack: To what does "Incentive Award Plan" refer in Vote 80? What are the terms of reference there?

Mr. Carson: I would like to assure you that this is no private means of bonusing Public Service Commissioners. The Incentive Award Board is housed with the Public Service Commission. It applies to the granting of awards for suggestions coming from public servants in various departments of government. It responds to recommendations from Deputy Ministers relative to public servants who have made some very outstanding contribution—not merely a suggestion but mounted a new or creative program. The major award is the $5,000 that is given annually to a very, very outstanding public servant. This year it was the Governor of the Bank of Canada, Louis Rasminsky. He does not come under our jurisdiction, but he does come within the terms of reference of the Outstanding Achievement Award Plan.

Mr. Alkenbrack: Is the new seven per cent bonus for bilingual employees part of the Incentive Award Plan?

Mr. Carson: No.

Mr. Alkenbrack: That is an incentive in itself. Where is the financial breakdown of the amount paid out for the new seven per cent bonus for bilingualism?

Mr. Carson: It would not show in our estimates except in respect of the Commission's own employees. This is a direct charge against the salary

[*Interprétation*]

raison du manque de main-d'œuvre, nous utilisons toujours les services des employés du ministère de la Main-d'œuvre et de l'Immigration en dehors de notre pays.

Les rapports entre les Centres de la main-d'œuvre du Canada et la Commission sont de plus en plus étroits. Nous voudrions bien qu'ils se chargent davantage d'une grande partie des travaux que nous exécutons actuellement.

En fait, la seule raison pour laquelle nous n'avons pas pu déléguer une plus grande partie de nos pouvoirs relatifs à la catégorie du soutien administratif,

s'explique par les difficulté éprouvées par les Centres de la main-d'œuvre du Canada qui n'ont pas pu accepter ces attributions nouvelles aussi rapidement que nous l'aurions voulu. Mais nous voudrions en tout cas nous débarrasser d'une assez grande partie de nos attributions à leur bénéfice, autant que possible, de façon à ce que nous ne fassions pas double emploi dans diverses parties du pays.

Mr. Portelance: Thank you.

M. Alkenbrack: Ma première question. Qu'est-ce que c'est que ce programme dont il est question au poste 80? Vous parlez des primes d'encouragement, je pense.

M. Carson: Il ne s'agit pas de primes que nous versons aux commissaires dans la Fonction publique, je vous assure. Ce programme est logé à la Commission de la Fonction publique. Il consiste à verser des primes à l'initiative aux fonctionnaires de divers ministères. Nous faison cela parce que certains sous-ministres nous ont recommandé de récompenser certains fonctionnaires, non pas pour leurs propositions, mais pour avoir mis sur pied des programmes nouveaux. Le grand prix est de $5,000, donné annuellement à un fonctionnaire particulièrement brillant. Cette année, c'est le gouverneur de la Banque du Canada, M. Rasminsky, qui l'a reçu. Son poste n'est pas de notre ressort, mais le Programme d'encouragement à l'initiative peut s'appliquer.

M. Alkenbrack: Est-ce que cette prime de 7 p. 100 au bilinguisme fait partie du programme des primes à l'initiative?

M. Carson: Non.

M. Alkenbrack: Il s'agit d'une prime en soi, où trouvera-t-on ce qu'a pu coûter le 7 p. 100 versé sous forme de primes au bilinguisme?

M. Carson: Cela ne figurerait pas à nos crédits, sauf en ce qui concerne les gens qui travaillent directement pour la Commission. Ce sont des frais direc-

[*Texte*]

books of the various departments in which these people are employed.

You will understand, sir, that the seven per cent is only applicable to typists, stenographers and secretaries; and, although it is viewed as an incentive in the minds of many people it was a very practical response to the labour market to recruit and retain bilingual secretaries against the competition from outside employers, particularly in the Montreal area. We found that we were competing against a bonusing arrangement for bilinguals by the outside major employers. It was in response to this that the Commission recommended to the government that a seven per cent bonus be paid to typists, stenographers and secretaries who had a second language and were using it at least ten per cent of the day.

From my point of view and, I think, from that of my colleagues in the Commission, this was more of a reaction to an outside marketplace practice than a pure and simple incentive to get people to learn a second language. It was to be able to recruit and retain in the service people who had this capability.

Mr. Alkenbrack: Mr. Chairman, Mr. Carson has said that the recommendation was made by the Commission to the government that this seven per cent bonus plan for bilingual secretaries and other categories be set up.

Did the government ask you for that advice, or did it originate strictly from the Commission?

Mr. Carson: Mr. Chairman, this happened before April 1967, when the Commission still had a statutory responsibility for making recommendations on pay matters. We no longer have that statutory responsibility, and I do not know how the government would respond if we were to give gratuitous advice along these lines now. But we did so while we still had responsibility for making recommendations on all pay matters.

• 1725

Mr. Alkenbrack: Mr. Chairman, of the $14,671,000 item under the 1969-70 current allotment what percentage would be for the bilingual and bicultural development program?

Mr. Carson: Mr. Chairman, you can find the breakdown on the language portion on page 366. It is $5,777,000, which is an increase of a little over a million from last year.

At the present moment we are planning the expansion of our language-training facilities by about another million the following year.

One of the reasons, of course, that you just cannot expand overnight is that there is a limit on the number of language-training teachers in the country; a limit on the number of facilities that you can bring

[*Interprétation*]

tement payés par les ministères où ces gens travaillent. Ce 7 p. 100, il faut le comprendre, ne s'applique qu'aux sténos, dactylos et secrétaires, et bien qu'il s'agisse là d'une initiative, dans l'esprit de beaucoup de gens, c'était véritablement une réaction très pratique de notre part. Nous avons voulu recruter et conserver des dactylos et des secrétaires bilingues face à la concurrence du secteur privé, notamment à Montréal. Nous faisions concurrence à un régime analogue de primes appliqué par les grands employeurs du secteur privé. C'est pourquoi la Commission a recommandé au gouvernement le paiement d'une prime de 7 p. 100 aux dactylos, sténos et secrétaires qui avaient une deuxième langue et qui s'en servaient au moins 10 p. 100 du temps.

De mon point de vue et du point de vue de mes collègues à la Commission, il s'agit surtout de concurrencer le marché extérieur. Ce n'était pas simplement pour encourager les gens à apprendre une deuxième langue, il s'agissait simplement de recruter et de conserver les gens qui parlaient deux langues.

M. Alkenbrack: Monsieur le président, M. Carson a dit que la recommandation avait été faite au gouvernement par la Commission. Est-ce que le gouvernement vous avait demandé conseil en la matière ou si vous avez agi de votre propre initiative?

M. Carson: Ceci remonte avant avril 1967, alors que la Commission était encore chargée de présenter des propositions en ce qui concerne les traitements. Nous n'avons plus de responsabilités statutaires dans ce domaine, et je ne sais pas comment le gouvernement réagirait si nous lui donnions des conseils en cette matière. Nous avons fait cette recommandation lorsque nous avions encore le pouvoir en question.

M. Alkenbrack: Des $14,671,000 qui figurent à vos crédits de 1969-1970, quel pourcentage est consacré au programme d'encouragement du bilinguisme et du biculturalisme?

M. Carson: Vous trouverez le détail de ces questions à la page 366. Il s'agit de $5,777,000 environ, ce qui est une augmentation d'un peu plus d'un million depuis l'an dernier. A l'heure actuelle, nous cherchons à développer nos cours de langues, ajoutant un million encore l'année prochaine. L'une des raisons, évidemment, pour lesquelles nous ne pouvons pas réaliser toutes ces choses du jour au lendemain est qu'il n'y a pas un nombre infini de professeurs de langues dans le pays et qu'il y a des limites aux installations que nous pouvons établir d'un seul coup. Nous ne pouvons pas non plus retirer tous les fonc-

[*Text*]

into being at one time; and, of course, a limit on the number of public servants who can be released from their jobs to undergo language-training. Therefore, we are expanding on what we think is a reasonable and orderly basis.

Mr. Alkenbrack: Mr. Chairman, I take it that the figure of roughly $5 million would answer my question. Is that both for bilingualism, which we certainly need, and for biculturalism? How far does biculturalism enter into your estimate? Is any money being spent for biculturalism, or is that just an appendage there, or a misnomer?

Mr. Carson: No, Mr. Chairman; the Commission does have a pilot project, if you want to think of it in that way, in the bicultural area. Each year we have been sending twenty senior public servants and their wives and children to Quebec City to absorb the other culture; and we have been sending ten Francophone families to Toronto to absorb whatever culture there is in Toronto. This has been a major effort in a bicultural experiment.

We are evaluating this to find out whether the amount of time and effort and dollars that are being invested in it are worthwhile. The present cost of this program is running into about half a million dollars. It is not an inexpensive thing to pick up a whole family and move them off and pay their removal expenses and their tuition fees, but it has had some really remarkable results.

A number of families have come back to the national capital, having achieved such a state of competency and polish in the second language that they can work effectively. But, perhaps more important, they have come back with a very real understanding of the aspirations and views and culture of another section of Canada.

The University of Laval and the community of Quebec City have been enormously co-operative in making all kinds of facilities available for cultural exchanges; and the University of Toronto and York University have been doing the same thing.

Mr. Alkenbrack: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I think Mr. Carson has established that culturalism goes along with lingualism; that is, that participation in the culture helps one learn the other language.

Of the 5,000 language students of last year approximately how many were taking French—that is, how many lacked French?

• 1730

Mr. Carson: I am sure Mr. Blackburn is going to be able to give you the figures. My recollection is three to one.

[*Interprétation*]

tionnaires du service pour les envoyer à l'école des langues. Nous procédons d'une façon qui nous paraît raisonnable et ordonnée.

M. Alkenbrack: Monsieur le président, j'en conclus que ce chiffre de 5 millions, approximativement, constitue la réponse à ma question. Ceci s'applique-t-il au bilinguisme, qui est indispensable, et aussi au biculturalisme? Jusqu'à quel point le biculturalisme intervient-il là-dedans? Est-ce qu'on dépense de l'argent pour le biculturalisme ou est-ce simplement une expression inexacte?

M. Carson: La Commission a un projet pilote, si vous voulez, dans le domaine biculturel. Chaque année, nous avons envoyé vingt familles de fonctionnaires supérieurs avec leur femme et leurs enfants à Québec pour absorber l'autre culture. Nous avons pris dix familles francophones et nous les avons envoyées à Toronto pour absorber toute culture qui peut y exister. C'est une expérience importante dans le domaine du biculturalisme. Nous sommes en train d'en estimer les résultats pour savoir si le temps, l'effort et l'argent que cela comporte en vaut vraiment la peine. Ce programme nous coûte actuellement environ un demi-million de dollars. Il en coûte relativement peu de déplacer toute une famille, la déménager, payer ses frais de déménagement et payer ses frais d'inscription à des cours de langues. Toutefois, les résultats jusqu'ici ont été remarquables.

Un certain nombre de familles sont rentrées dans la capitale nationale ayant une connaissance telle de la deuxième langue qu'elles ont pu travailler avec efficacité. Ce qui est plus important, c'est qu'elles sont revenues avec une meilleure compréhension des aspirations, des opinions et de la culture d'une autre partie du Canada. L'Université Laval et la ville de Québec en particulier se sont montrées tout à fait disposées à collaborer, elles ont mis à notre disposition toutes sortes de moyens pour faciliter des échanges culturels. Il en est de même pour les Universités de Toronto et York.

M. Alkenbrack: Merci, monsieur le président. M. Carson vient d'établir, je pense, que la culture est associée à la langue et qu'il est bon de prendre contact avec une autre culture pour apprendre une autre langue.

Il y avait donc l'an dernier 5,000 personnes inscrites à vos cours de langues; combien là-dessus étudiaient le français? Combien ne connaissaient pas le français, autrement dit?

M. Carson: M. Blackburn va vous donner les chiffres; c'est trois pour un environ, je pense.

[*Texte*]

Mr. G. A. Blackburn, (Director General, Language Bureau): Mr. Chairman, the actual figures were, on the average, about one in four; that is, about 25 per cent were taking second language training in English and 75 per cent were taking the second language training in French.

Mr. Alkenbrack: About one to four. That answers my next question as well.

Mr. Blackburn: Yes, but it changes from time to time.

Mr. Carson: We are embarrassed to have to tell you that not only do fewer Francophones require second-language training, but they learn the second language an awful lot faster when they are in the class.

Mr. Alkenbrack: Yes, that is a natural thing. Because of the continental preponderance of the English language they pick up English faster than the Anglophones pick up French.

Mr. Carson: They may be more motivated, too.

Mr. Alkenbrack: Yes. Are there any taking both languages?

Mr. Carson: No. We regard everybody as having one mother tongue as one of the official languages. I realize that we do have a lot of public servants, particularly from the Prairie Provinces, for whom neither English nor French is their mother tongue, but most of them have established on entry into the public service that one of them is their working tongue.

Mr. Alkenbrack: Mr. Chairman, have you ever known any personnel to have been discharged because of failure or refusal to become bilingual in one or the other language?

Mr. Carson: Not as yet. I would think that this is highly unlikely ever to happen. Mr. Pearson, if you remember, made certain commitments in the House of Commons when he announced the government's bilingual policy.

And certainly the Commission, which has the responsibility for adjudicating appeals not only against promotions but also against releases for incompetency or lack of qualification, tries to stay out of Mr. Finkelman's area; he adjudicates release for disciplinary reasons but we hear the appeals from employees who are released for lack of competence or lack of qualification. I think I can assure you that not only have there been no such appeals yet, but that the Commission would regard this as inadequate

[*Interprétation*]

M. Blackburn (Directeur général, Bureau des langues): Monsieur le président, les chiffres réels sont dans un rapport de un à quatre, soit 25 p. 100 d'étudiants en anglais et 75 p. 100 en français.

M. Alkenbrack: Cela répond également à ma prochaine question. 1 contre 4 environ.

M. Blackburn: Oui, mais cela change de temps à autre.

M. Carson: Nous regrettons d'avoir à vous dire qu'il y a moins de francophones qui exigent une formation en anglais mais ils apprennent la deuxième langue beaucoup plus rapidement quand ils n'y mettent que les anglophones apprennent le français.

M. Alkenbrack: Oui, évidemment, c'est naturel, à cause de l'influence du continent où prédomine la langue anglaise. Ils apprennent l'anglais plus facilement que les anglophones n'apprennent le français.

M. Carson: Ils ont peut-être plus de motivation.

M. Alkenbrack: Oui. Est-ce qu'il y en a qui apprennent les deux langues?

M. Carson: Non, nous considérons que tout le monde a une langue maternelle qui est l'une des deux langues officielles. Je me rends parfaitement compte évidemment qu'il y a un grand nombre de fonctionnaires, notamment dans les provinces des Prairies, pour qui la langue maternelle n'est ni le français ni l'anglais, seulement, la plupart d'entre eux ont en s'inscrivant dans la fonction publique, montré que l'une d'entre elles au moins était leur langue de travail.

M. Alkenbrack: Est-ce que vous avez jamais entendu dire que quelqu'un avait été mis à la porte parce qu'il a refusé ou ne soit pas parvenu à être devenu bilingue, à apprendre l'autre langue officielle?

M. Carson: Non, pas encore. Je pense que c'est tout à fait improbable. M. Pearson, si vous vous en souvenez, avait pris certains engagements, à la Chambre des communes, en annonçant la politique du bilinguisme du gouvernement.

Et il est certain que la Commission qui a la responsabilité d'entendre les appels, non seulement en ce qui concerne les questions d'avancement, mais aussi en ce qui concerne les licenciements pour incompétence ou qualifications insuffisantes essaie de ne pas nous mêler des affaires de M. Finkelman. Il décide des cas de licenciement pour des motifs disciplinaires mais nous jugeons aussi des appels des employés qui sont congédiés pour incompétence ou qualifications insuffisantes. Je crois que je puis vous

[*Text*]

grounds for releasing someone who had previously been considered qualified.

You do not apply a policy like this retroactively to people.

Mr. Alkenbrack: Thank you.

Mr. Carson: Now it will, and I would mislead you if I did not share with you that it is beginning to affect promotions, but not tenure.

Mr. Alkenbrack: Thank you.

Le président: Monsieur Trudel?

M. Trudel: Monsieur le président, je comprends les difficultés qu'on aurait à déterminer le nombre d'employés bilingues dans la Fonction publique, quand on a 220,000 employés. Je crois que M. Carson nous a dit qu'il y avait environ 16,000 employés autour d'Ottawa, qui auraient besoin d'une formation linguistique. Aussi, si je me reporte à ce qui a été dit, depuis 1964, on a eu un minimum de 50 employés qui suivaient des cours de langue, jusqu'à un maximum de 5,000 l'an dernier. Est-ce qu'on a examiné les résultats durant cette même période de temps? Est-ce qu'on a établi une proportion? Si je ne me trompe pas, environ 10,000 personnes ont été impliquées; elles ont participé une fois, deux fois ou plus à des cours de langue. Est-ce qu'on a gardé, à ce moment-là, un dossier de ce qui a été accompli par ces gens?

Mr. Carson: Mr. Chairman, yes indeed we are keeping very good records on all the people who get into language training and following them through. The great majority of the 5,000 have been with us for, I would say, over two years. They would have started with us at level one and be progressing on through, with an additional number being brought in each year. The number who fall by the wayside, who take a certain level of language training and are either withdrawn by their departments or moved to other parts of the country or perhaps make a personal decision that it is going to be an impossible task, has been pretty small. We did supply this information in reply to a question that was asked in the House.

About 13 per cent for one reason or another have been drop-outs, but this is not entirely explained in terms of their inability to learn the language. Some of them have been moved to other parts of the country where we do not have facilities available; others have had a priority of work that made it difficult for them to continue. But it is our hope to follow very, very closely the progress of individuals because, as

[*Interpretation*]

assurer que non seulement à ce jour il n'y a pas eu d'appels du genre, mais que la Commission considérerait que ces raisons seraient irrecevables pour congédier quelqu'un qui aurait été considéré compétent auparavant.

Vous ne pourriez pas appliquer cette politique de façon rétroactive.

M. Alkenbrack: Merci.

M. Carson: Maintenant cela se produira et je vous ferais faire fausse route si je ne partageais pas avec vous l'idée que cela commence à exercer une influence sur les promotions, non pas sur la sécurité de l'emploi.

M. Alkenbrack: Merci.

The Chairman: Mr. Trudel?

Mr. Trudel: Mr. Chairman, I appreciate the difficulties of determining the number of bilingual public servants, considering there are 220,000 employees. Mr. Carson has said, I believe, that we have approximately 16,000 civil servants in and around Ottawa, who need language training. Furthermore, looking back to what has been said since 1964 we have had a minimum of 50 employees taking language training, to a maximum of about 5,000 last year. During that same period, has any check been made of the results? Has a percentage been established? For instance, if I'm right, about 10,000 people have been involved. They have participated once, twice, or more in language courses. Has any record been kept of what has been accomplished by those people?

M. Carson: Monsieur le président, oui certainement nous tenons de très bons dossiers de toutes les personnes qui s'inscrivent à des cours de langue et les terminent. La grande majorité des 5,000 est avec nous, je dirais, depuis plus de 2 ans. Elles auraient commencé avec nous au niveau I et auraient progressé avec le temps en avançant d'un niveau à chaque année. Ceux qui tombent en cours de route, qui acquièrent un certain niveau de formation linguistique et sont, soit retirés par leur ministère ou mutés dans une autre partie du pays, ou bien font une décision personnelle que la tâche sera impossible, ont été peu nombreux. Nous avons donné ces renseignements en réponse à une question posée à la Chambre.

Environ 13 p. 100, pour une raison ou une autre, ont abandonné le cours, mais ce fait ne s'explique pas entièrement par leur inaptitude à apprendre la langue. Certains ont déménagé dans d'autres parties du pays où les cours ne sont pas disponibles; d'autres on dû faire passer leur travail avant et il était devenu difficile pour eux de poursuivre. Mais nous espérons suivre de très près l'évolution de ces gens, parce que,

[*Texte*]

you can see, when you are spending $5 million on 5,000 public servants, you are investing an awful lot of money. We want to be sure that we are not wasting it.

M. Trudel: J'ai une autre question, monsieur le président. Est-ce qu'on pourrait dire que 50 p. 100 des gens qui ont suivi des cours de langue, peuvent maintenant se servir, comme langues de travail, des deux langues officielles du pays?

Mr. Carson: Mr. Chairman, I would like to defer to Mr. Blackburn and Dr. Labonté. I think 50 per cent is too high, because we were really only up to 1,000 students three years ago so the 5,000 have not been through three years yet. Would you like to hazard an estimate on this, Mr. Blackburn?

Mr. Blackburn: Mr. Chairman, I agree with Mr. Carson. I think a better estimate would be in the neighbourhood of 25 per cent rather than 50 per cent. We have had roughly 2,500 people in for over two years. These people would have in the ordinary way accumulated a sufficient competence to be useful in the work situation.

This does not necessarily mean that they will be able to do any creative work in the second tongue. On the contrary, I do not think that they would be expected to do this.

M. Trudel: J'ai une dernière question, monsieur le président. D'après ce que j'ai cru comprendre et d'après ce que vous avez dit tout à l'heure, il faut trois ans de cours pour avoir une facilité de travail. Est-ce exact?

Mr. Carson: This, Mr. Chairman, depends on the stage at which the individual starts. We are finding that the school system the individual went through and the length of time he took the language either in high school or at university make some difference in what level we could start him out in language training. If you take someone like myself, a British Columbian, who starts from almost total ignorance, then three years is about the best that you can expect to produce results in.

Mr. Trudel: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Mr. Chairman, to switch the subject a little, I understood the gentleman to say that you delegated the hiring of staff to some departments to a degree. Just what did you mean? Did you mean that if this is in Vancouver, for example, if it is in a geographic location, you delegate this authority? Do you mean certain industries or fields? Just what did you mean, sir?

Mr. Carson: Mr. Chairman, the main criterion that we have been using is the occupational level and we have delegated the operational category—I would say

[*Interprétation*]

comme vous voyez, lorsque vous dépensez 5 millions de dollars pour le compte de 5,000 fonctionnaires, vous investissez beaucoup d'argent, et on veut s'assurer que cet argent ne soit pas gaspillé.

Mr. Trudel: Mr. Chairman, I have another question. Could it be said that 50 per cent of these people who have been in language training are now in a position to use both official languages as working languages?

M. Carson: Je voudrais m'en remettre ici à M. Blackburn ou à M. Labonté. Je crois que 50 p. 100 est un peu trop élevé. Nous n'avions que 1,000 étudiants il y a trois ans. Les 5,000 n'ont pas encore traversé cette période de trois ans. Est-ce que vous voudriez risquer un chiffre à ce propos M. Blackburn?

M. Blackburn: Monsieur le président, je suis d'accord avec M. Carson. Le chiffre le plus exact serait quelque chose comme 25 p. 100 plutôt que 50 p. 100. Nous avons eu environ 2,500 personnes inscrites depuis plus de deux anx. Normalement, ces personnes auraient acquis une compétence suffisante pour les rendre utiles en milieu de travail.

Cela ne veut pas dire nécessairement qu'elles feraient du travail créatif dans la deuxième langue. Au contraire, je ne pense pas qu'on le leur demanderait, d'ailleurs.

Mr. Trudel: One last question, Mr. Chairman. As far as I can see then, and according to what you said earlier, it takes three years of courses to obtain a working ability. Is that right?

M. Carson: Cela dépend du niveau où on commence. Et nous constatons, cela dépend évidemment du régime scolaire dans lequel a été formé le fonctionnaire en question, du temps qu'il a mis à étudier la langue, au niveau secondaire ou à l'université. Le niveau de départ fait une certaine différence en matière de langue. Si vous prenez quelqu'un qui, comme moi, vient de la Colombie britannique, qui commence à peu près à zéro, trois ans est le temps optimum pour obtenir des résultats.

M. Trudel: Merci, monsieur le président.

M. Thomson (Battleford Kindersley): Pour changer un peu de sujet, j'ai cru comprendre que vous déléguiez vos fonctions de recrutement à certains ministères jusqu'à un certain point. Qu'est-ce que vous vouliez dire exactement? A Vancouver, par exemple, si c'est dans un certain secteur géographique vous déléguez vos attributions? Voulez-vous dire à certaines industries et dans certains domaines? Qu'est-ce que cela veut dire exactement?

M. Carson: M. le président, voici ce que cela veut dire. Le grand critère que nous avons utilisé, le niveau de l'emploi. Nous avons délégué la catégorie

[*Text*]

about 90 per cent now—to the departments of government.

Those departments or agencies that are too small to set up their own staffing facilities are likely to ask us to continue to do this staffing job for them, but the larger departments such as Post Office, Customs, Taxation, Indian Affairs and the Others have now taken on, under delegated authority from the Commission, the responsibility for staffing all of their operational category positions. These are, as I said, the blue and grey collar jobs, as a simple way of defining them. It would be to all of the trades and a certain number of jobs like the mail handlers, letter carriers, and the parks staff.

These people would all be hired now by departments, they would be hired locally through the Canada Manpower centres but engaged on the authority of the deputy minister without reference to the Public Service Commission.

In the past we had to issue a certificate for everyone who had been engaged. Now we have delegated that authority to the deputy ministers. We have not delegated it to ministers; we have delegated it to deputy ministers, and it is under very stringent conditions that we delegate it. The deputy has to agree to conform to all of the requirements of the Public Service Employment Act and regulations and to all the practices that the Commission itself would follow if it were continuing to do this. We have set up a monitoring procedure so that we can not only satisfy ourselves but satisfy Parliament each year that this trust is not being abused, and we will be reporting to Parliament each year the departments to whom we have delegated authority, the levels to which we have delegated it, and we will also be reporting to you any instances where we have to withdraw delegated authority from a department for abusing this trust.

Mr. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): I had a complaint again from a civil servant just the other day, and this was about a department and I do not wish to name the department or get the minister involved here; this is not really the problem. The complaint was something to the effect that this minister was not offering leadership in the department, morale is going down, many have quit or are thinking of quitting. Do you have any control over a situation like this?

Mr. Carson: Mr. Chairman, we are always interested in this kind of problem. I do not mean to be cavalier in my remark, but my experience has been that public servants, in common with their colleagues in the armed forces, feel that "griping" is a prerogative.

[*Interpretation*]

dite occupationnelle à environ 90 p. 100, je dirais, aux ministères du gouvernement.

Ces ministères ou organismes qui sont trop petits pour avoir leur propre service du personnel nous demanderont vraisemblablement de continuer à nous en occuper à leur place. Les grands ministères, ceux de qui relèvent les postes, les douanes, l'impôt, les affaires indiennes ont, aux termes de l'autorité qui leur est déléguée par la Commission, assumé la responsabilité de recruter dans toutes les catégories dites occupationnelles. Il s'agit évidemment des collets bleus et des collets gris, si vous voulez. En somme il s'agirait de tous les métiers et un certain nombre d'emplois, tels que les trieurs de courrier, les facteurs, et les préposés à l'entretien des parcs nationaux.

Toutes ces personnes seront désormais recrutées par le ministère, par l'intermédiaire sur place, des Centres de main-d'œuvre, sur délégation de pouvoir du sous-ministre, sans passer par la Commission de la fonction publique.

Dans le passé, on exigeait de nous un certificat en ce qui concerne chacune des personnes dont les services avaient été retenus. Cette autorité maintenant a été déléguée par nous au sous-ministre. Nous ne l'avons pas déléguée au ministre, mais au sous-ministre.

Des conditions très sévères sont appliquées à ces opérations. Il faut que l'on se conforme à toutes les dispositions de la Loi sur la Fonction publique et à tous les règlements y afférant. Il faut qu'on se comporte exactement comme la Commission de la fonction publique se comporterait si elle continuait à engager du personnel.

Nous avons aussi un système de surveillance afin de nous convaincre chaque année, ainsi que le Parlement que cette confiance ne fasse pas l'objet d'abus. Nous indiquerons les ministères et le niveau auxquels nous avons délégué une autorité, et nous allons aussi vous signaler tous les cas où il aura fallu, pour des raisons d'abus, retirer notre délégation à tel ou tel ministère, le cas échéant.

M. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Un fonctionnaire s'est plaint, pas plus tard que l'autre jour, au sujet d'un ministère, je ne peux pas nommer le ministère ni mettre en cause le ministre. Ce n'est pas là la question. Il s'agissait du fait que ce ministre n'insufflerait pas un bon esprit dans son ministère, que le moral serait bas parmi les employés, qu'un grand nombre abandonnent ou sont sur le point de donner leur démission. Est-ce que vous avez quelque chose à voir avec une situation comme celle-là?

M. Carson: Ce genre de problème ne manque jamais de retenir notre intérêt. Je ne voudrais pas répondre à la légère. Mais j'ai l'impression que les fonctionnaires sont un peu comme les soldats. Se plaindre pour eux c'est un droit dont ils usent volon-

[*Texte*]

gative, and moods and morale do shift, particularly depending of course on the emphasis that the government of the day is giving to a particular program. We find from a recruitment point of view and transfer point of view that there are some "in" departments from time to time and there are others that are "out" departments" from time to time, but that over the long haul these tend to balance off.

We are always concerned about conditions of morale in departments of government because it seriously affects our efforts to recruit and promote and transfer people and to ensure career development. Where we sense that there are too many people from Department A applying to get out and get into other departments we usually try to have a serious talk with the deputy minister involved and see if we cannot get to the root of the problem. Usually deputies are pretty concerned about this sort of thing, and very often we are able to work out mutually agreed upon programs to try to improve the situation.

Mind you, the Commission does not have the sole central responsibility here. A very large part of the responsibility belongs to Treasury Board through their Personnel Policy Branch, but because of our special interest in recruitment, retention, training and development we are sensitive to this and are grateful to receive information that indicates where problems are occurring.

• 1745

One of the best barometers we have, of course, is our appeals procedure and where we see the number of appeals mounting in Department A we take a good hard look at why there are more appeals in that department than there are in some other departments.

Mr. Thompson (Battleford-Kindersley): Thank you very much.

The Chairman: Are there any other questions?

We wish to thank you, Mr. Carson, you staff and your officers for your attendance during the study of your estimates.

This meeting stands adjourned until next Thursday afternoon at 3:30 o'clock.

[*Interprétation*]

tiers. Ils rouspettent. Le moral change, les attitudes changent. Cela dépend évidemment que l'importance que peut donner le gouvernement à tel ou tel programme, à tel ou tel moment donné. Du point de vue du recrutement, par exemple, du point de vue des mutations, il y a des ministères à la mode et d'autres dont la gloire semble passée. Mais dans l'ensemble, cela finit par s'équilibrer.

La question nous préoccupe toujours parce que cela touche de près aux efforts que nous faisons pour recruter, pour muter, pour donner de l'avancement, pour favoriser le développement des carrières. Là où il y a trop de gens du ministère qui demandent à être transférés dans un autre ministère, nous essayons de discuter sérieusement la chose avec le sous-ministre pour voir si nous ne pouvons pas aller à la racine du mal. Généralement les sous-ministres sont très coopératifs, et nous pouvons généralement nous mettre d'accord sur des programmes qui satisfont tout le monde.

La Commission n'est pas exclusivement responsable de cet état de choses. Le Conseil du Trésor est aussi en cause dans une très large mesure par l'intermédiaire de la Division du régime du personnel. Mais parce que nous nous intéressons au recrutement, à la formation, aux mutations, etc., nous sommes toujours reconnaissants des renseignements que l'on peut nous donner à ce sujet.

Nous aimerions savoir, nous aimons toujours savoir où apparaissent les problèmes. L'un des meilleurs baromètres c'est notre processus d'appel des griefs. Si le nombre d'appels augmente au ministère A nous regardons la chose de plus près.

M. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Merci beaucoup.

Le président: D'autres questions?

Merci, monsieur Carson. Merci de nous avoir fourni l'occasion de vous rencontrer lors de l'étude de vos crédits.

La séance est levée jusqu'à jeudi après-midi, à 3h. 30.

OFFICIAL BILINGUAL ISSUE
HOUSE OF COMMONS

First Session
Twenty-eighth Parliament, 1968-69

FASCICULE BILINGUE OFFICIEL
CHAMBRE DES COMMUNES

Première session de la
vingt-huitième législature, 1968-1969

STANDING COMMITTEE
ON

MISCELLANEOUS ESTIMATES

COMITÉ PERMANENT
DES

PRÉVISIONS BUDGÉTAIRES EN GÉNÉRAL

Chairman M. Fernand E. Leblanc *Président*

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS
AND EVIDENCE

PROCÈS-VERBAUX ET
TÉMOIGNAGES

No. 19

TUESDAY, MAY 6, 1969

LE MARDI 6 MAI 1969

Respecting

The items listed in the Main Estimates 1969-70, relating to the Treasury Board.

Concernant

Les postes énumérés au budget principal 1969-1970, concernant le Conseil du trésor.

WITNESSES—TÉMOINS

(See Minutes of Proceedings)

(Voir Procès-verbaux)

STANDING COMMITTEE
ON
MISCELLANEOUS ESTIMATES

COMITÉ
DES
PRÉVISIONS BUDGÉTAIRES
EN GÉNÉRAL

Chairman: M. Fernand-E. Leblanc — *Président.*
Vice-Chairman: Mr. Jack Cullen — *Vice-président.*

and Messrs — et MM.

Alkenbrack,
Clermont,
Dumont,
Guay (*Lévis*),
Gundlock,
LeBlanc (*Rimouski*),
Mather,
McCutcheon,
Noël,
Paproski,
Peddle,
Penner,
Portelance,
Ricard,
Robinson,
Rochon,
Thomson (*Battleford-Kindersley*),
Trudel—20

Le secrétaire du Comité,
D. E. Levesque
Clerk of the Committee

Pursuant to S.O. 65(4) (b)

Conformément à l'article 65 (4) (b) du Règlement

REPORT TO THE HOUSE

Wednesday, May 7, 1969.

The Standing Committee on Miscellaneous Estimates has the honour to present its

EIGHTH REPORT

Pursuant to its Order of Reference of Thursday, February 20, 1969, your Committee has considered the following items listed in the Main Estimates 1969-70:

Votes 15, 20, 25 and 30 relating to the National Research Council;

Votes 30 and 35 relating to Canadian Arsenals Limited;

Vote 40 relating to Canadian Commercial Corporation;

Vote 30 relating to the Public Service Staff Relations Board;

Votes 80 and 85 relating to the Public Service Commission.

Your Committee commends them to the House.

A copy of the relevant Minutes of Proceedings and Evidence (*Issues nos. 17 and 18*) is tabled.

Respectfully submitted,

Le président,
FERNAND LEBLANC,
Chairman.

RAPPORT À LA CHAMBRE

Mercredi, 7 mai 1969.

Le Comité permanent des prévisions budgétaires en général a l'honneur de présenter son

HUITIÈME RAPPORT

Conformément à l'ordre de renvoi du jeudi 20 février 1969, le Comité a examiné les postes suivants du budget principal 1969-1970:

Les crédits nos 15, 20, 25 et 30 concernant le Conseil national de recherches;

Les crédits nos 30 et 35 concernant les Arsenaux canadiens Limitée;

Le crédit no 40 concernant la Corporation commerciale canadienne;

Le crédit no 30 concernant la Commission des relations de travail dans la Fonction publique;

Les crédits nos 80 et 85 concernant la Commission de la Fonction publique.

Le Comité les recommande à l'approbation de la Chambre.

Un exemplaire des procès-verbaux et témoignages s'y rapportant (*fascicules nos 17 et 18*) est déposé.

Respectueusement soumis,

20228–1½

(*Text*)

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

TUESDAY, May 6, 1969.
(20)

The Standing Committee on Miscellaneous Estimates met this day at 3.45 p.m., the Chairman, Mr. Fernand Leblanc, presiding.

Members present: Messrs. Alkenbrack, Clermont, Cullen, Gundlock, Leblanc (*Laurier*), LeBlanc (*Rimouski*), Mather, Noël, Peddle, Penner, Rochon, Thomson (*Battleford-Kindersley*) (12).

Appearing: The Honourable C. M. Drury, President of the Treasury Board.

Witnesses: From the Treasury Board: Mr. Sylvain Cloutier, Assistant Secretary, Program Branch; Mr. S. S. Reisman, Secretary of the Board.

The Chairman called the Estimates 1969-70 relating to Treasury Board and introduced the Minister and his Officials.

The Minister, with the assistance of Messrs. Cloutier and Reisman, answered questions.

The following items were studied and allowed to stand:

Vote 1 – Departmental Administration ..... $ 6,739,000;

5 – Government Administration (contingencies) $60,000,000;

10 – Government's share of Surgical–medical insurance premiums, etc. ..... $21,500,000.

At 4.40 p.m., the Committee adjourned to the call of the Chair.

(*Texte*)

PROCÈS-VERBAL

Le MARDI 6 mai 1969
(20)

Le Comité permanent des prévisions budgétaires en général se réunit cet après-midi à 3 h. 45, sous la présidence de M. Fernand Leblanc, président.

Présents: MM. Alkenbrack, Clermont, Cullen, Gundlock, Leblanc (*Laurier*), LeBlanc (*Rimouski*), Mather Noël, Peddle, Penner, Rochon, Thomson (*Battleford-Kindersley*) (12).

A comparu: L'honorable C. M. Drury, président du Conseil du Trésor.

Témoins: Du Conseil du Trésor: M. Sylvain Cloutier, secrétaire adjoint, Division des programmes; M. S. S. Reisman, secrétaire du Conseil.

Le président met en délibération les prévisions budgétaires de 1969-1970 relatives au Conseil du Trésor, et il présente le Ministre et les hauts fonctionnaires.

Assisté de MM. Cloutier et Reisman, le Ministre répond aux questions.

Les postes suivants sont étudiés et réservés:

Crédit nº 1 – Administration centrale ..... $ 6,739,000;

5 – Gestion de l'État $60,000,000;

10 – Quote-part de l'État des primes d'assurance chirurgicale–médicale, etc. ..... $21,500,000.

A 4 h. 40 de l'après-midi, le Comité s'ajourne jusqu'à nouvelle convocation du président.

Le secrétaire du Comité,

D. E. Levesque,

Clerk of the Committee.

(Text)

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

TUESDAY, May 6, 1969.
(20)

The Standing Committee on Miscellaneous Estimates met this day at 3.45 p.m., the Chairman, Mr. Fernand Leblanc, presiding.

Members present: Messrs. Allenbrook, Clermont, Cullen, Cundlock, Leblanc (*Laurier*), LeBlanc (*Rimouski*), Mather, Neil, Peddle, Penner, Rochon, Thomson (*Burlington-Kindersley*) (12).

Appearing: The Honourable C. M. Drury, President of the Treasury Board.

Witnesses: From the Treasury Board: Mr. Sylvain Cloutier, Assistant Secretary, Program Branch; Mr. S. S. Reisman, Secretary of the Board.

The Chairman called the Estimates 1969-70 relating to Treasury Board and introduced the Minister and his Officials.

The Minister, with the assistance of Messrs. Cloutier and Reisman, answered questions.

The following items were studied and allowed to stand:

Vote 1 – Department Administration
..... $ 6,739,000;

5 – Government Administration
(contingencies) $60,000,000;

10 – Government's share of Surgical-
medical insurance premiums, etc.
..... $21,500,000.

At 4.40 p.m., the Committee adjourned to the call of the Chair.

Le secrétaire du Comité,

D. E. Levesque,

Clerk of the Committee.

(Texte)

PROCÈS-VERBAL

Le MARDI 6 mai 1969
(20)

Le Comité permanent des prévisions budgétaires se réunit cet après-midi à 3 h. 45, sous la présidence de M. Fernand Leblanc, président.

Présents: MM. Allenbrook, Clermont, Cullen, Cundlock, Leblanc (*Laurier*), LeBlanc (*Rimouski*), Mather, Neil, Peddle, Penner, Rochon, Thomson (*Burlington-Kindersley*) (12).

A comparu: L'honorable C. M. Drury, président du Conseil du Trésor.

Témoins: Du Conseil du Trésor: M. Sylvain Cloutier, secrétaire adjoint, Division des programmes; M. S. S. Reisman, secrétaire du Conseil.

Le président met en délibération les prévisions budgétaires de 1969-1970 relatives au Conseil du Trésor, et il présente le Ministre et les hauts fonctionnaires.

Assisté de MM. Cloutier et Reisman, le Ministre répond aux questions.

Les postes suivants sont étudiés et réservés:

Crédit n° 1 – Administration
centrale ..... $ 6,739,000;

5 – Gestion de l'État
..... $60,000,000;

10 – Quote-part de l'État des primes d'assurance chirurgicale–
médicale, etc. ..... $21,500,000.

A 4 h. 40 de l'après-midi, le Comité s'ajourne jusqu'à nouvelle convocation du président.

EVIDENCE

(Recorded by Electronic Apparatus)

Tuesday May 6, 1969.

• 1544

The Chairman: Will the meeting please come to order. We are here this afternoon to study the 1969-70 Estimates relating to the Treasury Board. We have for consideration Vote 1, Departmental Administration, details of which are found at page 438 in the Blue Book; Vote 5, Contingences, found at page 439; and Vote 10, Government's share of surgical-medical insurance premiums, found at page 441.

We have the pleasure of having the Minister with us. There will not be an opening statement but the Minister will be pleased to answer any questions you might have.

• 1545

Mr. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Mr. Chairman, I would like to talk about the PPBG—The Planning, Programming, Budgeting Guide. Under what department would this come, please?

The Hon. C. M. Drury (President of the Treasury Board): Treasury Board.

Mr. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): But under which one of these votes that we are dealing with.

Mr. Drury: I would think probably under Administration, Vote 1.

Treasury Board
Administration

1. Departmental Administration, including grants as detailed in the Estimates—$6,739,000

Mr. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Am I correct in saying that this guide is just a systematic way of establishing priorities in departmental spending?

Mr. Drury: I would hope that it is a little more than merely a systematic way of establishing priorities. It is a technique for the corporation of establishing constructive programs which should contain both the necessary elements of continuing re-analysis and evaluation and, as consequence, to make a program more comprehensible and rather easier to justify in both economic and other terms than would be the case if they were merely presented as a bright idea on an intuitive and unsupported basis.

TÉMOIGNAGES

(Enregistrement Électronique)

Le mardi 6 mai 1969

Le président: Messieurs, à l'ordre. Nous sommes ici cet après-midi pour étudier les prévisions budgétaires de 1969-1970 du conseil du Trésor, le crédit nº 1—Administration, dont les détails se trouvent à la page 438 du Livre bleu; le crédit nº 5—Éventualités, à la page 439 et le crédit nº 10—Quote-part de l'État des primes d'assurance chirurgicale-médicale à la page 441.

Nous avons le plaisir d'avoir le ministre parmi nous. Il n'y aura pas de déclaration d'ouverture mais le ministre sera heureux de répondre aux questions que vous allez poser.

M. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Monsieur le président, j'aimerais parler du guide P.P.B., le guide de planification, de programmation et de budgétisation. De quel ministère cela relève-t-il?

L'hon. C. M. Drury (président du Conseil du Trésor): Du Conseil du Trésor.

Mr. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Au chapitre de quel crédit en traite-t-on?

M. Drury: Cela relève probablement de l'Administration au crédit nº 1.

Conseil du Trésor
Administration centrale, y compris des subventions selon le détail des affectations . . $6,739,000

M. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Monsieur le président, ai-je raison de dire que le guide n'est qu'une manière systématique de déterminer les questions prioritaires des dépenses du ministère?

M. Drury: J'ose croire que c'est un peu plus qu'une manière systématique de déterminer les questions prioritaires. Il s'agit d'une technique pour la société, de mettre sur pied des programmes constructifs qui renfermeraient à la fois des éléments nécessaires pour une analyse et une évaluation permanentes, et, en conséquence, pour inaugurer un programme plus détaillé et plus facile de le justifier sur le plan économique et autre; que s'il n'y avait la présentation d'une idée de génie en s'appuyant sur l'intuition ou qui n'est pas soutenue.

[*Text*]

Mr. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Do I understand that your Department had a consultant group study this particular method to see if it was effective enough.

Mr. Drury: That is correct, to ascertain the extent to which it would be appropriate to Canadian Government operations. This is an accepted management technique in the United States.

Mr. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Is this study now public, Mr. Chairman?

Mr. Drury: There was not a study from this point of view. We took on strength consultants who prepared a number of papers for consideration by the Treasury Board and these were and still are regarded as internal documents.

Mr. Thomson (Battleford-Kinderlsey): They are internal documents and you are suggesting that they should not be available to Members of Parliament?

Mr. Drury: As such.

Mr. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): I see.

Mr. Drury: Now if you wish an outline of the PPB technique we have this available.

Mr. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): You are referring to this.

Mr. Drury: That is correct.

Mr. Thomson (Battleford-Kinderlsey): I have one of those. I was wondering if we could get a copy of the study made by the consultants and ascertain how effectively, in their opinion, this was working.

Mr. Drury: Because this program is new there has been no analysis of effectiveness by consultants.

Mr. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): You did have an internal study made by consultants but no analysis. I am a little confused here.

Mr. Drury: We had consultants help develop this document you have seen.

Mr. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): This technique.

Mr. Drury: That is correct.

Mr. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Yes

Mr. Drury: This is the product of their cerebrations along with ours. Having devised an application of this particular technique to Canadian Government operations, this document resulted and Treasury Board is

[*Interpretation*]

M. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Si je comprends bien, votre ministère compte un groupe de conseillers qui ont étudié l'efficacité de cette méthode.

M. Drury: Oui, pour voir dans quelle mesure cela serait approprié dans le fonctionnement du gouvernement canadien. Il s'agit d'une technique de gestion acceptée aux États-Unis.

M. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Est-ce que cette étude a été rendue publique?

M. Drury: Il n'y a pas eu d'étude dans ce sens. Nous avons engagé des conseillers qui ont rédigé un certain nombre de documents pour la gouverne du conseil du Trésor et ces documents sont envisagés comme documents de consultation interne.

M. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Vous dites que ce sont des documents de consultation interne et qu'ils ne devraient pas être offerts aux députés?

M. Drury: En tant que tel.

M. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Je vois.

M. Drury: Si vous désirez une idée d'ensemble de la technique du PPB, nous pouvons vous fournir ceci.

M. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Vous faites allusion à ce document?

M. Drury: C'est exact.

M. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): J'en ai un. Je me demandais si nous pourrions obtenir un exemplaire de l'étude faite par les conseillers et en étudier le degré d'efficacité.

M. Drury: Etant donné que ce programme est nouveau, il n'y a pas eu d'analyse de l'efficacité, effectuée par les conseillers.

M. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Il y a eu une étude interne effectuée par des conseillers mais il n'y a pas eu d'analyse. Je suis un peu embrouillé.

M. Drury: Nous avons eu des conseillers qui ont aidé à mettre au point le document que vous avez vu.

M. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Cette technique.

M. Drury: C'est juste.

M. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Oui.

M. Drury: C'est le résultat de leur raisonnement en plus du nôtre. Après avois mis au point cette technique de fonctionnement pour le gouvernement canadien, on a produit ce document et maintenant le

[*Texte*]

now in the process of introducing and endeavouring to make work in the various government departments this approach to programming.

Mr. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Mr. Chairman, I do not know whether the President of the Treasury Board remembers but at a recent meeting I suggested that the different departments of government were perhaps inflating their figures or at least putting the best case they could before the President

• 1550

of the Treasury Board and, in effect, saying that they had the best reason to spend government money. Now I would like to return to this argument. In fact, I even wonder if some of these departments are not pulling a snow-job on the President of the Treasury Board and, indirectly, on the Members of Parliament.

For example, in the Finance, Trade and Economic Affairs Committee Mr. Pepin talked about a 24 to 1 cost-benefit relationship in respect of military research and development. Were these studies done in advance, do you have the results and, if so, can we have them?

Mr. Drury: I think probably—and I have some familiarity with this having administered these particular programs as Minister of Industry—Mr. Pepin was citing a number of instances in which there has been sales resulting from a research investment which was in excess of 24 times the amount of the assistance investment. To say that this is standard, or resulted from a profound cost-benefit study, would, I think, be carrying it a little too far. To the best of my knowledge there would be no such studies.

Mr. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): There would be no studies. In reference to a specific thing, for example, were any cost-benefit studies required by the Treasury Board on the proposed ING, or Intense Neutron Generator, program as proposed by Atomic Energy of Canada?

Mr. Drury: Mr. Chairman, if one examines the nature of the test neutron generator proposals it will be seen that a cost-benefit study would be difficult, in that without a research project the researchers would know at the outset precisely what it was they were going to be able to discover, nor what the cost of such discovery might be. And if you do not know what it is going to cost you to get an answer, and you do not know precisely what the answer is going to be, it is difficult to make any estimate of the value of the answer.

Mr. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): In this particular case was a cost-benefit study done?

Mr. Drury: As I indicated, by the very nature of this particular project a cost-benefit study cannot be done.

[*Interprétation*]

conseil du Trésor commence à inaugurer et à essayer de mettre à exécution dans tous les différents ministères, ce genre de planification.

M. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Monsieur le président, je ne sais pas si le président du Conseil du Trésor s'en rappelle, mais la dernière fois que nous nous sommes réunis j'ai insinué que les divers ministères gouvernementaux gonflaient peut-être leurs chiffres ou soumettaient le meilleur cas au président du

conseil du Trésor et, en fait, en disant qu'ils avaient les meilleures raisons du monde de dépenser cet argent. J'aimerais reprendre cet argument aujourd'hui. En fait, je me demande si parfois ces ministères n'essaient pas de rouler, le président du conseil du Trésor, et indirectement les députés.

Par exemple, au Comité des finances, commerce et questions économiques, monsieur Pépin a parlé d'un rapport de 24 contre 1 pour le coût et le bénéfice dans le domaine militaire, de la recherche et de la mise au point. Est-ce que ces travaux ont été faits à l'avance, en avez-vous les résultats et dans le cas de l'affirmative, pouvons-nous nous les procurer?

M. Drury: Je crois que c'est possible, et comme je me suis familiarisé avec la question, étant donné que j'ai été chargé de ces programmes, à titre de ministre de l'Industrie, monsieur Pépin parlait d'un certain nombre de cas où des ventes résultant de la recherche étaient d'un montant vingt-quatre fois plus grand que celui de l'aide accordée. Dire que cela est tout à fait courant ou que cela résultait d'une étude de rentabilité approfondie, je crois que ce serait aller trop loin. Ce type d'études n'existe pas, que je sache.

M. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Il n'y aura pas d'étude. Venons-en à des sujets déterminés: le Conseil du Trésor a-t-il exigé qu'on fasse une étude de rentabilité relativement au ING, le générateur de flux neutronique intense, programme proposé par *l'Atomic Energy of Canada?*

M. Drury: Monsieur le président, si on étudie la nature d'un tel programme, on verra qu'une étude de rentabilité serait assez difficile à faire car sans projet de recherche, les chercheurs ne savent pas au départ ce qu'ils vont découvrir, et ils ignorent les coûts d'une telle découverte. Si on ignore au juste le coût d'obtenir la solution, si on ne connaît pas la solution d'avance, il est difficile d'évaluer.

M. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Dans ce cas particulier, est-ce qu'on a fait une étude de rentabilité?

M. Drury: Comme je l'ai dit, de par nature même du projet, une étude de rentabilité est impossible.

[*Text*]

Mr. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): In effect, one was not done. Was one done in relation to the ship that sailed, or is sailing, around South America?

Mr. Drury: I would say no.

Mr. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Could you give me a specific example of where you know a cost-benefit study was done so that we as parliamentarians, could have an example? I am not suggesting any particular one, but is there one that has been done that we could use as an example?

Mr. Drury: Some quite elaborate analyses of costs and benefits were done in relation to the Prince Edward Island causeway and the various types of construction and types of facility, as against projected benefits. This was one case.

Mr. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): As I understand it, does not every project of any significance that arises have to go through this procedure?

Mr. Drury: There should be an endeavour in every program to cite objectives in terms of economic values, which is the benefit side of the equation, and an outline of the costs of achieving these benefits. In this sense it is a cost-benefit study.

● 1555

Looking at the question of the kind of tires to be used on government vehicles, there are a number of qualities available at different prices. The mere analysis of performance and the value of performance as against the scales of cost is in itself a cost-benefit study, and this is done. Indeed, almost any intelligent approach to a program, certainly a limited program, would include these two elements.

Mr. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): I have one final comment, Mr. Chairman, or question, if you will.

In these programs the "buck" would shop with you relative to the spending of money. But I, too, am a politician. Do political considerations not occasionally interfere? Let me take out the word "political". Do not other considerations sometimes . . .

An hon. Member: Intangibles?

Mr. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): All right; intangibles—that is a better word.

Mr. Drury: Obviously they do, and probably, in a project such as the Intense Neutron Generator the intangibles are more significant in terms of benefits than are the tangibles, in that you cannot really conceive and measure tangibles. Therefore, obviously, the intangible considerations must weigh heavily and should in every instance be taken into account.

Mr. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): All right. I will pass for now, Mr. Chairman.

[*Interpretation*]

M. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Donc, on ne l'a pas fait. Pour ce qui est du navire qui a navigué autour de l'Amérique du Sud, est-ce qu'il y a eu une étude de rentabilité dans ce cas?

M. Drury: Je dirais que non.

M. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Pourriez-vous me donner des exemples de projets où l'on a fait des études de rentabilité? Pourriez-vous nous donner un exemple, vu que nous sommes députés.

M. Drury: Oui, il y en a eu des études de ce genre, très approfondies, sur la chaussée de l'Île-du-Prince-Édouard: on a étudié les divers modes de construction, diverses installations, pour déterminer leur coût par rapport aux avantages. C'est un exemple.

M. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Si je comprends bien, tout projet d'importance doit être étudié de la même façon.

M. Drury: On devrait essayer, pour chaque programme, d'évaluer les objectifs en termes économiques, le côté avantages, et de déterminer en gros le prix de ces bénéfices. En ce sens, il s'agit d'une étude de rentabilité. Si on aborde la question des pneus utilisés sur les véhicules du gouvernement, il y a différentes qualités disponibles, à divers prix. L'analyse même du rendement et de son rapport à la valeur est une étude de rentabilité. Cela est fait couramment. En fait, toute méthode intelligente d'aborder un programme, surtout s'il est limité, comprendrait ces deux procédés.

M. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Monsieur le président j'ai une dernière observation, ou question, si vous voulez. En ce qui concerne ces programmes, le tout échouerait chez vous, pour ce qui est de ces dépenses. Est-ce que des considérations politiques n'entrent pas quelquefois en ligne de compte? Je retire le mot politique. Est-ce que. . .

Une voix: Les intangibles?

M. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): C'est cela, intangibles est un terme plus approprié.

M. Drury: Oui, cela se produit probablement, surtout dans le cas d'un projet tel que celui du générateur de flux neutronique intense. Les intangibles sont plus importants à l'égard des bénéfices que les facteurs tangibles. On ne peut vraiment mesurer et concevoir les éléments intangibles. Je crois qu'il faut toujours tenir compte des éléments intangibles.

M. Thomson: Je passe, monsieur le président.

[*Texte*]

The Chairman: Gentlemen . . .

Mr. Mather: I have one short supplementary on this subject.

The Chairman: All right.

Mr. Mather: Mr. Drury, in relation to the cost-benefit studies on the Queen Elizabeth Observatory, it is my understanding—and I may by wrong—that after a large amount of money had been spent a study was made and then the project was cancelled. Is this correct?

Mr. Drury: There was no cost-benefit study—and I must make this point to your colleague, Mr. Orlikow, at some future date. No cost-benefit study, in the term that these have been discussed, was done in relation to the Queen Elizabeth telescope.

The general background, perhaps over-simplified, is that after some additional expenditures had been made it was found that these were going to be substantially higher than had been contemplated at the time the project had been originated; that the general priority of optical astronomy was not a top priority in terms of federal government needs; and that the sums of money required to carry the Queen Elizabeth telescope through to completion did not appear to make the highest demand on this sum of money. Consequently, it was proceeded with.

Mr. Mather: The figure I have indicates that the rough estimate for the total job would be in the order of $20 million and that something like $4 or $5 million were actually spent prior to the cancellation of the project.

Mr. Drury: My recollection is that these are the orders of magnitude of the figures. I am not sure of the precise figures.

Mr. Mather: I have one final question. Is the cost-benefit study being done on the proposed satellite communications system, a multi-million dollar project?

Mr. Drury: The plan, Mr. Chairman, as I think the Committee members will be aware, is to set up a corporation, partly publicly—and partly privately—owned, which, as a consequence of its operations, will be economically viable. That is, that out of the provision of its services it will be able to earn sufficient sums of money to meet its cost, including capital costs. One has to do a study of revenues and of expenses, including the amortization of capital, and this has been done.

• 1600

Mr. Mather: Would that not be a sort of partial cost-benefit study?

[*Interprétation*]

Le président: Messieurs . . .

M. Mather: J'aurais une courte question supplémentaire à ce sujet.

Le président: C'est bien.

M. Mather: Monsieur Drury, au sujet de l'étude de rentabilité qui a été faite sur la possibilité de construire l'observatoire de la Reine Élizabeth, il me semble, si je ne m'abuse, qu'après avoir dépensé beaucoup d'argent on a fait une étude et ensuite abandonné le projet. Est-ce exact?

M. Drury: Il n'y a pas eu d'étude de rentabilité, à ce propos, et je devrai le signaler à votre collègue M. Orlikow. Il n'y a pas eu d'étude de ce genre en ce qui concerne cet observatoire de la Reine Élizabeth. Pour simplifier, mettons qu'après avoir fait certaines dépenses, au départ, on a constaté que les frais seraient beaucoup plus élevés que ceux qu'on avait envisagés au moment de la conception du projet; l'ordre de priorités demandait que cela soit écarté parce que l'astronomie n'était pas prioritaire en fonction des besoins du gouvernement fédéral; les sommes d'argent qui étaient nécessaires pour mettre le projet à exécution ne semblaient pas des plus nécessaires lorsqu'il s'agissait d'un tel montant. Par conséquent, on a abandonné le projet.

M. Mather: D'après les chiffres que j'ai en main il s'agirait, grosso modo, d'une dépense totale de 20 millions de dollars et on avait déjà dépensé 4 ou 5 millions de dollars avant de renoncer à ce projet.

M. Drury: Si je me souviens bien il s'agissait de ces chiffres. Je ne sais pas quels étaient les chiffres exacts.

M. Mather: Une dernière question. Est-ce que l'étude de rentabilité relative au satellite de communication est un programme de plusieurs millions?

M. Drury: Ce qu'on se proposait de faire, monsieur le président, comme les membres du Comité le savent probablement, c'est d'établir une société semi-privée et semi-publique qui, par conséquent serait rentable. A même ses revenus, cette société pourrait subvenir à tous les frais y compris les immobilisations. Ce qu'il faut faire, c'est une étude des revenus et des dépenses, et l'amortissement des immobilisations, et ceci a été fait.

M. Mather: N'est-ce pas là une sorte d'étude partielle de rentabilité?

[*Text*]

Mr. Drury: That is perhaps an unusual description for the kind of *pro forma* financial information which every securities commission requires. I do not think they refer to it as a cost-benefit study. These are financial studies of economic viability.

Mr. Mather: To my mind it indicates cost either in benefit or the reverse. But thank you very much, Mr. Drury. That is my question.

The Chairman: Gentlemen, now that we have a quorum I would like to interrupt the study of the estimates of the Treasury Board. I have to ask you to adopt votes 15, 20, 25 and 30, which were studied at previous meetings but not carried because we lacked quorums. Is that agreed?

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

Votes 15, 20, 25 and 30, relative to the National Research Council, agreed to.

Votes 30 and 35 relating to Canadian Arsenals Limited agreed to.

Vote 40 relating to Canadian Commercial Corporation agreed to.

Vote 30 relating to Public Service Staff Relations Board agreed to.

Votes 80 and 85 relating to Public Service Commission agreed to.

The Chairman: Thank you, gentlemen. Mr. Minister, we can now carry on with the study of your estimates. Mr. Cullen, I believe you were asking a question.

Mr. Cullen: Yes. I think my question comes under the broad heading of administration but, as a new member, I find the complexity of this matter almost jungle-like and although I would like to go through your jungle like Tarzan, it is not always possible.

As a new member, one of the things that concerns me is that I come here and this big book of estimates is placed before me and the next thing I know the supplementary estimates are before us and I find to my chagrin that money is being taken out of my riding and used somewhere else. This is the situation about which I am primarily concerned. As a new member I come here and I see certain problems in my riding—and I am sure this is true in other areas—and I make representations to the appropriate department.

There is no provision in the estimates for this particular job and yet in our opinion in the riding it might be an emergency situation. What is the procedure once the department of Public Works, let us say, approves something? As I understand it, it goes to a committee of the Treasury Board. Is this the administrative procedure that is followed or is this the stepping-stone

[*Interpretation*]

M. Drury: C'est peut-être une description un peu inusitée du genre de renseignements pour la forme que les commissions de garantie doivent avoir. Il s'agit d'études financières de rentabilité.

M. Mather: Pour moi, il s'agit d'une étude des coûts en bénéfices, ou vice-versa. Je vous remercie quand même.

Le président: Je voudrais vous demander la permission d'interrompre l'étude des prévisions budgétaires du Conseil du Trésor, maintenant que nous avons le quorum. Il nous faut approuver les crédits suivants, qui ont été étudiés lors des séances précédentes mais sur lesquels nous n'avons pas pu voter car nous n'avons pas le quorum. Sommes-nous d'accord?

Des voix: D'accord.

Les crédits 15, 20, 25 et 30, concernant le Conseil national de recherches, sont approuvés.

Les crédits 30 et 35, concernant les Arsenaux canadiens Limités, sont adoptés.

Le crédit 40, concernant la Corporation commerciale canadienne, est adopté.

Le crédit 30, concernant la Commission des relations de travail dans la fonction publique, est adopté.

Les crédits 80 et 85, concernant la Commission de la fonction publique, sont adoptés.

Le président: Excusez-moi, monsieur le ministre, nous pouvons maintenant poursuivre l'étude de vos prévisions budgétaires. Alors, monsieur Cullen, vous vouliez poser des questions?

M. Cullen: Je crois que cela vient sous l'entête «Administration»; mais vu que je suis un nouveau député, je trouve tout cela si complexe qu'on dirait une jungle et même si je voulais la traverser à la manière de Tarzan, je n'y parviendrais pas. Une des choses qui me préocuppe en tant que nouveau député c'est que j'arrive ici et on place devant moi ce gros volume des prévisions budgétaires et la première chose que nous voyons devant nous, ce sont des prévisions budgétaires supplémentaires. Alors, je vois à regret que l'on vient chercher de l'argent dans ma circonscription et on l'utilise ailleurs. Alors, je voudrais savoir quelle est la situation. En tant que nouveau député, je me rends ici et je vois certains problèmes dans ma circonscription; je sais que cela est la même chose dans d'autres circonscriptions, et je fais mes instances au ministère en cause.

Il n'y a aucune disposition dans les prévisions budgétaires pour l'accomplissement de cette tâche. Malgré tout, du point de vue de notre opinion, ce pourrait être une situation urgente. Quelle est la procédure à suivre une fois que le ministère, disons celui des Travaux publics a approuvé quelque chose. Cela va, je crois, à un comité du Conseil du trésor. Est-ce la

[*Texte*]

that is used to eventually get it on a supplementary estimate?

Mr. Drury: If I may, Mr. Chairman, perhaps I will go back a stage. Each year the government departments are required to prepare and forward to the Treasury Board a five-year program which looks forward to the coming and subsequent fiscal years. Obviously the details, both in respect to the timing and costs of this program for the next fiscal year, are expected to be fairly accurate and precise, but in the later stages of the same program they will not be as accurate. They cannot be either in respect to timing or in respect to costs but it gives an order of progression, an order of magnitude and a means by which one can see how a particular department intends to achieve the objectives of the program.

● 1605

All these programs from all the government departments are reviewed by the Treasury Board and are related to likely revenues out of which these proposed or desired expenditures have to be met. Based on this, the Treasury Board advises the department of the general acceptability of programs, suggests modifications in them of one sort or another or will not accept any part of a particular program. These views then go back to the department and, on the strength of this first look, detailed estimates are prepared by the department for only the upcoming fiscal year.

These detailed estimates are then referred to the Treasury Board in the late fall and eventually find their way into the Blue Book. Following that there is a further review by the government as a whole to ensure that the total proposed expenditures will fit the anticipated revenues. Obviously the forecast of revenues will tend to change with the passage of time, sometimes up and sometimes down, but the closer one is to the period when the actual revenues can be anticipated the more accurate the forecast will be, so this second review is necessary.

These estimates which in effect are proposals but not commitments, they are spending proposals by the government, are then submitted to Parliament for approval. During the course of the year, as one would expect with so many and such a variety of programs operating in so many fields, there will be changes—and indeed there should be if there is to be the required flexibility to take advantage of situations—in the timing and thoughts, perhaps, of the proposals for the current year. These lead to variations in the programs. Some of these variations may be made by the department on its own, if they are minor; some may be made by the department with approval of Treasury Board, if it is a larger area of significance and, finally, some

[*Interprétation*]

procédure habituelle, la procédure administrative qui est suivie ou est-ce le tremplin utilisé pour que cela parvienne éventuellement à une prévision supplémentaire?

M. Drury: Si vous me permettez de répondre, je vais reculer d'une étape. Chaque année, les ministères du gouvernement doivent préparer un programme de cinq ans qui prévoit les années financières à venir et les années subséquentes, et ils doivent le faire parvenir au Conseil du Trésor. Il est évident que les détails quant aux dates et aux coûts de ce programme pour la prochaine année fiscale se doivent d'être assez justes et précis; ils le seront moins pour les étapes éloignées de ce même programme. Ces détails relatifs au calendrier et aux coûts ne sauraient être précis non plus mais cela donne un ordre de progression et d'envergure et un moyen de concevoir comment un ministère en particulier se propose d'atteindre les objectifs de son programme.

Tous ces programmes pour tous les ministères du gouvernement sont étudiés par le Conseil du trésor et on les met en regard des revenus probables à même lesquels les dépenses que l'on se propose de faire seront payées. En se servant de cette base, le Conseil du Trésor renseigne les ministères sur l'acceptabilité des programmes, propose des modifications à un programme ou un autre ou, encore, n'acceptera dans sa totalité un programme en particulier. A ce moment-là, les vues du Conseil du Trésor sont exprimées au ministère et, à partir de cette première analyse, des prévisions détaillées sont établies par le ministère uniquement pour l'année fiscale qui vient.

Ces prévisions détaillées sont ensuite envoyées au Conseil du Trésor vers la fin de l'automne et éventuellement feront partie du Livre bleu. Après cela, il y a encore une revision faite par l'ensemble du gouvernement pour qu'il s'assure que le total des dépenses proposées correspondra aux revenus anticipés. Evidemment, les prévisions des revenus auront tendance à changer à mesure que le temps passera. Quelquefois ils montent et parfois ils baissent, mais plus on se rapproche de la période ou les revenus véritables peuvent être prévus plus les prévisions deviennent précises. C'est alors que cette seconde révision devient nécessaire.

Ces projets qui sont en fait des projets mais non pas des engagements, des projets de dépenses de la part du gouvernement, sont alors soumis au gouvernement pour approbation. Au cours de l'année comme on peut s'y attendre avec une telle variété et une telle quantité de programmes dans des domaines très distincts, il y aura des changements et il est normal qu'il y en ait si on veut disposer de la souplesse voulue pour prendre avantage de certaines situations, dans l'ordonnancement et dans la conception peut-être de ce qui a été proposé pour l'année en cours.

Cela amène des variations dans les programmes. Certaines de ces variations peuvent être faites par le minis-

[*Text*]

changes can only be made with the approval of Parliament on the recommendation of the department and of Treasury Board.

Mr. Cullen: Excuse me, if I may. When you talk about changes being made are you talking about changes by the department within the context of a vote in order to have a certain amount of money available? Suppose they decide not to build an airport but to build something else, does the department have the authority to make that kind of change?

Mr. Drury: There are limitations on the kinds and the nature of the changes that a department can make on its own. Some of them are related to the size, the number of dollars involved, and some are related to the nature of the commitment or the obligation.

By way of example, a grant which is authorized by Parliament to a particular grantee of $1 million cannot be changed by $1 or $2 or even one cent without a supplementary estimate or coming back to Parliament. Here is a case which, by reason of the nature of the expenditure, it does not lie within the jurisdiction of the department to bear. There are limits, which vary with departments and with programs, where changes would be permitted on the department's own authority, and generally speaking they are at a higher level of expenditure but they are still within the same parliamentary vote, where an alteration could be authorized by the Treasury Board on the recommendation of the department.

• 1610

I am just giving you the general philosophy. There are a number of limitation rules, and I will be glad to see that you are provided with these if it will be helpful.

Mr. Cullen: Thank you.

Mr. Alkenbrack: I just have one brief question Mr. Chairman for the Minister, and to be in order, I suppose I had better ask it under the second line of page 438, Accounting and cheque issue services. When does the Treasury Board intend to issue the cheques for a grant in lieu of taxes to local municipalities throughout Canada. I have received some inquiries by local councils, they could use the money because they have to pay interest on that levy until they receive it from the Treasury Board.

Mr. Drury: This heading to which, Mr. Chairman, the hon. Member referred may be a little bit misleading. The program of grants in lieu of taxes is the responsibility of the Minister of Finance. It is a program which is administered by him and his

[*Interpretation*]

tère lui-même si les modifications sont mineures. Certains changements peuvent être apportés par le ministère avec l'approbation du Conseil du trésor, si c'est dans un domaine plus important, et, finalement, certains changements ne peuvent être faits qu'avec l'approbation du Parlement, avec la recommandation du ministère et du Conseil du trésor.

M. Cullen: Excusez-moi. Quand vous parlez de changements, parlez-vous de changements apportés par un ministère à l'intérieur d'un crédit, en vue d'avoir une certaine somme disponible? Par exemple, s'il est décidé, au lieu de construire un aéroport de construire quelque chose d'autre, est-ce que le ministère a le droit de faire un tel changement?

M. Drury: Il y a des limites en ce qui a trait à la nature et aux changements qu'un ministère peut faire de son propre chef. Quelques-unes se rapportent à l'importance, au nombre de dollars en cause, et certaines sont reliées à la nature de l'engagement ou de l'obligation.

Pour vous donner un exemple, une subvention autorisée par le Parlement à un récipiendaire quelconque, qui serait de $1 million, ne peut pas être modifiée de $1 ou $2, pas même d'un cent, sans un budget supplémentaire qui serait présenté de nouveau au Parlement. Voilà un cas qui en raison de la nature de la dépense ne relève pas de la juridiction du ministère. Il y a des limites qui varient avec les ministères et les programmes où des changements seraient permis en vertu des pouvoirs propres au ministère, et de façon générale elles sont d'un niveau de dépenses plus élevé mais à l'intérieur d'un même crédit parlementaire, où une modification pourrait être autorisée par le Conseil du Trésor après recommandation du ministère.

Je vous donne seulement les principes généraux qui guident notre action. Il y a un certain nombre de règlements qui limitent notre action. Je serais heureux de vous fournir ces règlements si vous y êtes intéressé.

M. Cullen: Merci.

M. Alkenbrack: J'aurais une brève question à vous poser. Afin, de ne pas m'écarter du sujet, je vais vous demander de parler de la deuxième ligne à la page 438. «service de comptabilité et d'émission de chèques.»

Quand le Conseil du Trésor va-t-il émettre aux municipalités du Canada des chèques pour les subventions en remplacement de taxe? Des conseils municipaux m'ont adressé desdemandes à ce sujet. Ils pourront utiliser l'argent parce qu'ils ont à payer de l'intérêt sur cette taxe jusqu'à ce qu'ils aient reçu l'argent du Conseil du Trésor.

M. Drury: M. le président cette rubrique à laquelle a fait allusion M. Alkenbrack peut être assez trompeuse. Le programme de subventions en remplacement de taxes relève du ministre des Finances. C'est un programme que gèrent le ministère et le ministre des

[*Texte*]

department; it is in his estimates that the grants in lieu of taxes appear. The actual cheques are issued—the mechanical operation—by the new Department of Supply and Services, but they merely issue on instruction of the Department of Finance. Apart from considering the general nature of the program, at an earlier period, the Treasury Board does not come into the detailed administration of this program.

Mr. Alkenbrack: Yes, I intended to ask this question in the House but I thought it would be in order to ask it here as well; nevertheless, Treasury Board has the final approval of payment of such things as grants in lieu of taxes is that not so?

Mr. Drury: Not in general, subsequent to the publication of the estimates, except where there are variations in the program as propounded in the estimates. Once the program appears in the estimates and there is no variation in that program the Department proceeds with it.

Mr. Alkenbrack: Thank you.

M. Clermont: Monsieur le président, je remarque au crédit 1, page 438, au sujet de l'effectif constant et des employés à temps partiel, qu'il y a 43 employés de plus pour 1969-1970, comparé à 1968-1969 et ce, pour un montant de $1,316,900; cette majoration représente-t-elle une augmentation d'effectifs et d'autres membres du personnel, monsieur le président?

M. S. Cloutier (Secrétaire adjoint, Conseil du Trésor): Monsieur Clermont, l'augmentation s'explique de trois façons.

Premièrement, l'augmentation des salaires est attribuable à un nombre croissant d'employés; une autre portion de ce 1,300 mille dollars est nécessaire en vue des augmentations de salaires, à la suite de conventions collectives et finalement, un autre montant d'environ $100,000 représente les salaires et les dépenses administratives du bureau du président du Conseil du Trésor, ce qui est un premier titre au crédit 1 du Conseil du Trésor, puisque le prédécesseur de M. Drury, qui était M. Benson, était également ministre du Revenu national et les dépenses administratives de son ministère étaient portées à celui du Revenu national et non au crédit du Conseil du Trésor.

M. Clermont: A la page 439, monsieur le président, je vois:

> Services administratifs fournis par le ministère des Finances: 1969-1970= $550,000 et pour 1968-1969 = $382,700.

[*Interprétation*]

Finances. Il porte dans ses prévisions budgétaires des subventions en remplacement de taxes. Les chèques présents sont émis—travail mécanique direz-vous—par le nouveau ministère des Approvisionnements et Services. Ils ne font qu'émettre les chèques d'après les directives du ministère des Finances. A part de considérer la nature générale du programme à des périodes précédentes, le Conseil du Trésor n'intervient pas dans la mise en œuvre du programme.

M. Alkenbrack: Je me proposais de poser cette question à la Chambre mais j'ai cru que j'étais aussi bien de la poser ici. Toutefois, le Conseil du Trésor est celui qui prend les décisions finales quant à l'approbation du paiement quand il s'agit de subventions en remplacement de taxes, n'est-ce-pas cela, monsieur le ministre?

M. Drury: Non, pas en général. A la suite de la publication des prévisions budgétaires, sauf s'il y a des modifications au programme proposé dans les prévisions budgétaires. Une fois que le programme est publié dans les prévisions budgétaires et qu'il n'y a pas de modifications, le ministère peut l'appliquer.

M. Alkenbrack: Merci.

Mr. Clermont: Mr. Chairman, I see that estimate 1, page 438 concerning the permanent and part-time staff, there are 43 employees more in 1969-70 as compared with 1968-69 for an amount of $1,300,000. Does this represent an increase of the staff and other members of personnel, Mr. President?

Mr. Cloutier (Assistant Secretary (Departmental), Treasury Board): The increase can be explained in three ways.

The first is an increase of the wages that can be attributed to the increase in the staff. Another part of this $1 million 300 thousand which is necessary because of the wage increase and finally, there is another amount of about one hundred thousand dollars which represents the wages and administrative expenses of the Chairman of the Treasury Board which is inscribed in credit 1 of the Treasury Board since the predecessor of Mr. Drury which was Mr. Benson was also the Minister of National Revenue and the administrative expenses of this Department were charged to the National Revenue and not to the Treasury Board.

Mr. Clermont: Page 439, Mr. Chairman, I see

> Administrative services provided by the Department of Finance for 1969-70 $550,000 and for 1968-69 $382,700.

[*Text*]

Ma question est celle-ci: comment se fait-t-il que ces crédits sont inscrits directement aux dépenses et non aux montants qui apparaissent à la page 438 pour:

Valeur approximative de services importants non compris dans les présents crédits.

M. Cloutier: Monsieur Clermont, les entrées que vous voyez au début des prévisions budgétaires, c'est-à-dire les locaux, les frais de comptabilité, etc., sont des frais encourus par d'autres ministères qui ont leurs propres crédits. Et puis, ces chiffres que vous voyez, sont une allocation des frais assumés par ces ministères-là. La deuxième entrée à laquelle vous avez fait allusion, les services fournis par le ministère des Finances, est celle-ci: c'est que, habituellement, chaque ministère a son propre service administratif, ce qui comprend service des documents, du personnel, le service comptable, et enfin toute la machine administrative du ministère, les dactylos, etc.

Au Conseil du Trésor, nous n'avons pas notre propre service administratif; nous sommes logés dans le même édifice que le ministère des Finances et une évolution s'est faite, si vous voulez, au Conseil du Trésor, qui est devenu un ministère à part, alors qu'autrefois le secrétariat du Conseil du Trésor faisait partie inhérente du ministère des Finances. Donc, le système administratif qui existait alors a été continué et le Conseil du Trésor, qui est maintenant un ministère autonome, reçoit ses services de celui des Finances et ce chiffre est un remboursement au ministère des Finances pour les services qu'il nous rend.

M. Clermont: Puis-je conclure, monsieur le président, pour M. Cloutier, que la valeur approximative est une évaluation, tandis que l'autre de $550,000 est un chiffre définitif?

M. Cloutier: C'est un montant de déboursés. En d'autres mots, le Conseil du Trésor va débourser en 1969-1970 jusqu'à $550,000 pour les services administratifs qu'il reçoit du ministère des Finances, alors qu'il ne déboursera pas, il n'y aura pas de déboursés en espèces, pour les autres services qu'il reçoit des autres ministères.

M. Clermont: Mon autre question se rattache, monsieur le président, au crédit 5 de la page 439: je vois au crédit 5

Eventualités—Sous réserve, etc.

Je vois pour 1969-1970 un montant de $60,000,000 et pour 1968-1969, $70,000,000.

Quelle est l'explication? Une diminution de dépenses de $10 millions serait peut-être de bon augure. Est-ce que ça serait, par hasard, rattaché à l'expo 67, ou quoi?

M. Cloutier: Non, monsieur. Le crédit nº 5 sert à deux fins: premièrement, il comprend un montant

[*Interpretation*]

How is it that these credits are charged directly to the expenses and not to the amounts which appear on page 438 for approximative value of important services not put in the present estimates?

Mr. Cloutier: Mr. Clermont, the entries you see at the beginning of the estimates, meaning the accommodation, the accounting, services charges incurred by other departments who have their own credits, and these numbers that you see are only an allocation of charges assumed by these departments. The second entry you mentioned, Services provided by the Department of Finance, is this one: usually each department has its own administrative services, which includes service of documents, personnel services, the accounting services, all the administrative machinery that is needed by the Department like telegraphy etcetera, typing services.

At the Treasury Board we do not have our own administrative service. We are in the same building as the Department of Finance and the Treasury Board developed into a separate department, whereas formerly—the Secretary of the Treasury Board was an inherent part of the Department of Finance. So, the administrative system that was then in place has continued, and the Treasury Board, which is now an autonomous Department receives its administrative services from the Department of Finance so this figure is a refund to the Department of Finance for the services given to us.

Mr. Clermont: Can I arrive at this conclusion then, Mr. Chairman, that the approximate value is only an estimate whereas the other value of $550,000 is a definite figure?

Mr. Cloutier: Well, it is an amount of expenditures. In other words, the Treasury Board will disburse up to $550,000 in 1969-1970 for the administrative services it receives from the Department of Finance. There will not be any disbursement, and there will be no cash disbursements, for the other services they receive from other departments.

Mr. Clermont: My other question relates to credit # 5 on page 439: Contingencies—Subject et cetera. I see for 1969-70 an amount of $60 million, while for 1968-69 it was $70 million. How can you explain this decrease. While it is a good sign in a way, since it is a decrease of $10 million, how do you explain it? Can you relay that to Expo '67 or what?

Mr. Cloutier: Not really sir. Vote 5 has two purposes: first an amount of $12 million for minor ex-

[*Texte*]

d'environ $12 millions pour des dépenses mineures et imprévues, l'autre montant est prévu pour accroître les crédits des différents autres ministères, à la suite des augmentations de salaires accordées par les conventions collectives. Le montant indiqué dans les prévisions ici, pour 1969-1970, représente une évaluation de ces sommes additionnelles qui seront nécessaires au cours de l'année. Le montant que vous voyez ici, en 1968-1969, en représente deux: celui de $70 millions que vous voyez là, est le même chiffre qui apparaissait aux crédits revisés de 1969-1970, qui a été majoré lors de l'adoption des crédits supplémentaires adoptés par la Chambre au mois de mars.

M. Clermont: Ma dernière question, monsieur le président a trait au crédit suivant:

> Statutaire—Contribution de l'État au Compte de pension de retraite etc.

Pour 1968-1969, je vois un montant de $139,333,400 et pour 1969-1970, je vois $228,623,000. D'où provient l'augmentation de près de $90 millions?

M. Cloutier: La Loi sur les pensions prévoit que le gouvernement, comme employeur, verse au fonds de pensions un montant équivalant à la déduction qui est faite du salaire de l'employé. De plus, . . .

M. Drury: Si je peux corriger, ce n'est pas le Fonds de pensions, mais le Compte de pensions.

M. Cloutier: Le Compte de pensions. Vous avez raison. La Loi sur les pensions prévoit également que, lorsqu'il y a une augmentation de salaire, du genre de celles qui sont accordées à la suite des conventions collectives, on doit verser au Compte des pensions un ajustement actuariel pour permettre au Compte de pensions d'être . . .

M. Clermont: En conformité?

M. Cloutier: . . . en conformité actuarielle. Et puis, la Loi stipule que l'ajustement actuariel doit être fait en cinq versements égaux, commençant dans l'année qui suit l'augmentation de salaire. Alors, comme nous sommes à peine à terminer le premier cycle des conventions collectives, et puisque celles-ci ont eu, en fait, pour résultat d'apporter des ajustement ou accorder des augmentations rétroactives qui, pour une large part, s'échelonnaient jusqu'à deux ou trois ans en arrière, le montant de l'ajustement a été considérable. L'augmentation sensible que vous avez notée provient en large partie de cette exigence de la Loi sur les pensions.

M. Clermont: Ai-je raison de croire, monsieur le président, que l'augmentation résulte de l'augmentation des salaires et traitements?

M. Cloutier: Exactement, oui, monsieur.

[*Interprétation*]

penses which are not expected; the other amount is to provide an increase in the estimates of other departments further to a wage increase resulting from the collective bargaining agreements. The amount which is shown in these estimates for 1969-70 is an estimate of those additional sums that will be incurred during the year. The amount that you see here for 1968-69 is the total sum of two items; first, I am sorry the $70 million that you see here is the same amount that was shown in the Revised Estimates of 1969-70 which was increased further by the adoption of supplementary credits by the House in March.

Mr. Clermont: My last question, Mr. Chairman, is related to the following estimate: statutory government's contribution to the superannuation account and so forth. For 1968-69, I see $139,333,400 and for 1969-70 I see $228,623,000. Where does this increase of nearly $90 million come from?

Mr. Cloutier: The Superannuation Act provides that the government, as an employer, contributes to the Pension Fund an equivalent amount to the deduction from the employee's salary. Furthermore, . . .

Mr. Drury: If I may correct, it is not the pension fund, but the pension account.

Mr. Cloutier: The Pension Account. You are right. The Pension Act also provides that when there is a salary increase like those that were granted following collective bargaining, there must be paid into the pension account an actuarial adjustment so that the pension account to be . . . is conformed and the access that

Mr. Clermont: In conformity?

Mr. Cloutier: In actuarial conformity. And then, the Act stipulates that the actuarial adjustment must be made in five equal payments starting in the year that follows the increase in salary. So, since we are only at the beginning of the first cycle of collective bargaining, and since these collective bargainings have resulted in retroactive wage adjustments for a good part going back to two or three years, the adjustment amount was quite considerable. The considerable increase that you have noticed is accountable in a large measure to this requirement of the Pension Act.

Mr. Clermont: So if I understood right, this results from the increase in salaries?

Mr. Cloutier: Exactly, yes.

[*Text*]

M. Clermont: Merci, monsieur le président.

Le président: Monsieur LeBlanc?

M. LeBlanc (Rimouski): Me reportant au crédit 5 encore, M. Cloutier dit que, dans le montant de $60 millions, une somme de $10 millions est prévue pour des dépenses mineures et imprévues. Pourrais-je avoir un exemple concret de ce genre de dépenses mineures et imprévues?

M. Drury: Il se peut qu'à l'occasion de désastres, par exemple, des désastres agricoles qui se produisent parfois soit dans l'Est ou dans l'Ouest, il y a des accords avec les gouvernements provinciaux pour donner une compensation aux agriculteurs. C'est imprévu, ce n'est pas trop considérable, peut-être $75,000, $100,000 ou même $5,000, dépenses mineures, on dit «mineures», si on prévoit un budget de $11 milliards, et imprévues.

M. LeBlanc (Rimouski): Merci.

The Chairman: Are there any further questions? Mr. Thomson.

Mr. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Thank you, Mr. Chairman, I would just like to go back to this for a moment to make sure that I understand your answers correctly.

In effect, you have three different ways of judging. You have programs that will come to you from the various ministers on the basis of the procedures or disciplines that you have outlined here.

Secondly, you would have the odd ones which might be guided in part by this but is a special case for some reason.

Thirdly, you have some where the intangibles outweigh any disciplines, really, that are mentioned in here.

Am I correct? This is what I want to understand.

Mr. Drury: We would hope, Mr. Chairman, that all programs would be prepared and justified using this technique we outline here. It takes some time to get everybody running on the same track. It is a question of reindoctrinating or re-instructing people in the effective application of this technique and this is in progress now. We hope eventually to have everyone operating on this particular planning program in budgeting technique.

This would cover even programs or occasions where perhaps the benefits are very difficult indeed to quantify in dollar terms. However, to the extend that this is possible, an attempt should be made in every case to quantify the benefits in dollars terms. The degree to which this can be done varies obviously with different programs.

[*Interpretation*]

Mr. Clermont: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. Chairman: Mr. LeBlanc?

Mr. LeBlanc (Rimouski): In referring to Vote 5 once again, Mr. Cloutier said that in the $60 million there are $10 million for minor unexpected expenses. Could I have some concrete examples of the kind of expenses which are called minor and unexpected.

Mr. Drury: I would say that when there is an agriculture disaster, for instance, that happens sometimes in the east or in the west, there are agreements with the provincial governments so as to reward the farmers. This is unexpected and it could be minor, perhaps $75,000 or $100,000–this is a minor and an unexpected expense. We call it minor if we talk about $1 billion budget.

Mr. LeBlanc (Rimouski): Thank you.

Le président: D'autres questions, messieurs? Monsieur Thomson?

M. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Merci, Monsieur le président. J'aimerais simplement revenir sur cette question un moment. Je voudrais m'assurer que j'ai bien compris vos réponses.

Il y a trois différentes façons de juger. Il y a des programmes qui vous viennent des différents ministères, selon la procédure ou les disciplines que vous avez décrites.

Deuxièmement, vous avez quelques programmes qui seraient peut-être guidés en partie par ceci, mais qui, pour une raison ou une autre, sont des cas exceptionnels.

Il y a aussi les cas où les intangibles ont plus de poids que les disciplines qui sont mentionnées. Est-ce exact? C'est ce que je voudrais savoir.

M. Drury: Nous espérons, monsieur le président, que tous les programmes seront préparés et justifiés selon cette technique. Mais, il faut quelque temps pour amener tout le monde à suivre la même procédure. Il s'agit simplement d'endoctriner ou d'instruire le personnel afin qu'il mette des techniques en application et c'est ce qui se fait en ce moment. Nous espérons qu'à la longue tous ceux qui travaillent à ce programme de planification suivent la technique de planification.

Cela s'étendrait même aux programmes et aux situations où il est peut-être difficile de quantifier les avantages en termes monétaires. Il est possible de le faire, à divers degrés, selon les différents programmes.

[*Texte*]

What are the dollar benefits, for instance, in a further substantial investment in upgrading the quality and the quantity of primary education of Indian children? It is difficult to put a precise measurable, dependable figure on this, but you can get some orders of magnitude as to the kind of costs which past experience indicate we incur as a consequence of a lower quality—this kind of thing.

Mr. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): I could raise some other questions in relation to this, but I do not think this is the place. In effect, you are saying that this is not completely workable yet, that you are still sort of indoctrinating or teaching the various departments or persuading the various ministers to use it, as I understand you?

Mr. Drury: That is correct, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): I just have one further question, Mr. Chairman, and this is with reference to another matter.

The last time you were before us I recall raising this question in connection with the civil servants. You said something to the effect that you do not tip your hand when you are bargaining with anybody, or words to that effect or that intent anyway, in arriving at wage agreements or anything else. I wonder if you are in a better position to tell us now how you are situated regarding the civil service in this respect.

Mr. Drury: I think we are well situated, Mr. Chairman. Just the other day we had a formal and very

• 1630

amicable signing of a collective agreement with the Public Service Alliance, the spokesman for which had been somewhat critical of the approach of the government to the bargaining process, indicating that it was unlikely that any agreement would be reached and indeed there was the threat of the possibility of strikes, the arbitration procedures and so forth. However, a relatively short period later we emerged with an agreement covering 54,000 employees the chief spokesman for whom was the author or expounder of these particular views. This, I would suggest, is liable to be part of the normal bargaining process

Mr. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. Mather: This agreement you mentioned, Mr. Drury, would that include, what I had heard was the rather difficult question of classification? I understood that there had been really no agreement up until recently in regard to the classification of civil servants in some departments and this is sort of a fundamental problem to come to agreement on, classification.

[*Interprétation*]

Quels sont les avantages monétaires, par exemple, d'un autre investissement appréciable en vue d'améliorer la qualité et le volume de l'éducation primaire des enfants Indiens? Il est difficile de le quantifier précisément, mais on peut avoir un certain ordre de grandeur des coûts qu'entraîne, d'après l'expérience passée, une éducation de qualité inférieure. Des choses de ce genre.

M. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Je pourrais poser d'autres questions à ce sujet, mais je ne crois pas que ce soit l'endroit voulu. Mais vous dites, en fait, que ce n'est pas encore tout à fait au point, que vous essayez encore de convaincre et d'endoctriner les divers ministères à se servir du système. Est-ce exact?

M. Drury: Oui.

M. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Une dernière question, monsieur le président, qui a trait à un autre sujet.

La dernière fois que vous avez comparu, je me souviens de vous avoir posé une question au sujet de la fonction publique. Vous avez répondu que vous ne dévoilez jamais vos intentions au cours des négociations collectives, ou quelque chose du genre, avant de vous entendre sur les questions de salaire ou autres. Est-ce que vous seriez maintenant en mesure de nous dire quelle est votre position vis-à-vis de la fonction publique à cet égard?

M. Drury: Je crois que notre position est bonne, monsieur le président. L'autre jour, nous avons eu une réunion officielle et très amicale pour la signature d'une convention collective avec l'Alliance de la fonction publique, dont le porte-parole avait critiqué ouvertement l'attitude du gouvernement à l'égard de la procédure de négociation, en laissant entendre qu'il était peu probable qu'on en arrive à une entente. Il a même porté des menaces de grève, de procédures d'arbitrage, etc. Toutefois, peu de temps après, une entente est intervenue qui s'étend à 54,000 employés dont le principal porte-parole était justement la personne qui avait émis ces critiques sévères. Alors, je suppose ou j'imagine que cela deviendra partie intégrante de la procédure normale des négociations.

M. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Merci, M. le président.

M. Mather: Si je comprends bien, M. Drury, cette entente comportait une difficulté de classification. Il n'y avait pas eu d'entente à venir jusqu'à récemment au sujet de la classification de fonctionnaires dans certains secteurs; c'est un problème fondamental sur lequel il fallait trouver un terrain d'entente.

[*Text*]

Mr. Drury: Mr. Chairman, classification of civil servants, job classification, was not one of the subjects included under the legislation under the head of collective bargaining; consequently, there has not been in the negotiating process with the various bargaining units this question of classification arising.

Mr. Mather: It was not possible to settle that question and it is still not settled in any agreement that has been negotiated?

Mr. Drury: I think when you say it is not settled, it was not at issue, it was not a subject which was on the table for negotiation.

Mr. Mather: My understanding of that is so, sir, but I also understand that many civil servants believe it is a very important factor in future relations or negotiations that may go on between the Treasury Board and the staffs. I was just trying to get to the point that this agreement you speak about, which has been come to, could not take the classification issue in; it was not discussible at that time?

Mr. Drury: Under the law, the authorization to engage in collective bargaining adopted by Parliament in 1966, this is not a bargainable subject.

Mr. Mather: I understand that.

Mr. Drury: I think one can easily find a number of civil servants who are unhappy, who are worried about a number of things which will have a bearing on their particular personal fortunes or future; one of these things is government policy. For instance, a man who is currently engaged—let me take the example of a telescope—in the elaboration of a program to set up the telescope is concerned, and will be presumably adversely affected if the government decides not to go ahead with it. He would like his bargaining agent to see that the government is committed to going ahead with it but this, as you well understand, is not part of the bargaining process.

Mr. Mather: I appreciate that. I think I am correct in saying, though, that civil service organizations seek to have legislation which will provide for consideration of classification of the various departments.

Mr. S. S. Reisman (Secretary of the Treasury Board): Mr. Chairman if I may make an observation on this matter of classification, it is very true to say

● 1635

that the whole matter of classification is related to the collective bargaining process at least in the following sense. Before we were able to move into the collective bargaining process to cover these several hundred thousand government employees, who are entitled to bargain collectively, we had to make some very substantial advances in the classification of these public

[*Interpretation*]

M. Drury: La classification des fonctionnaires, classification des emplois, est un problème qui n'entrait pas dans la loi sous le titre des négociations collectives. Et par conséquent, il n'y a pas eu, dans la procédure des négociations avec les différentes unités de négociations, des problèmes au sujet de la classification.

M. Mather: Par conséquent, cette question ne pouvait être réglée au moyen de négociations. Et elle n'est pas encore réglée.

M. Drury: On ne peut pas dire qu'elle n'est pas réglée, elle n'était pas en cause. Elle n'a même pas été soulevée lors des négociations.

M. Mather: Ça, je le comprends bien, mais, en outre, il y a bien des fonctionnaires qui croient que c'est un facteur important pour les négociations futures qui se poursuivront entre le Conseil du Trésor et le personnel. Je voulais simplement en venir au fait que cette entente qui a été conclue ne pouvait comprendre les questions de classification. On ne pouvait en discuter à ce moment-là.

M. Drury: En vertu de la loi, l'autorisation d'entrer en négociations collectives, donnée par le Parlement en 1966, disait que cette chose n'était pas négociable.

M. Mather: Je comprends.

M. Drury: Je crois qu'on peut trouver un certain nombre de fonctionnaires qui se préoccupent d'un grand nombre de choses qui auront une influence sur leur fortune et leur avenir: par exemple, la politique du gouvernement. Prenons l'exemple d'un télescope: un homme qui s'occupe de l'élaboration d'un plan en vue d'installer un télescope, est intéressé et subira les contrecoups défavorables de la décision du gouvernement à cet égard. Il aimerait bien que son agent de négociations veille à ce que le gouvernement tienne ses engagements. Mais, cela ne fait pas partie de la négociation.

M. Mather: Je le comprends, mais il serait juste de dire que les organismes d'employés cherchent à obtenir une loi qui tiendrait compte de la classification des divers ministères?

M. S. S. Reisman (Secrétaire du Conseil du Trésor): J'aimerais faire une remarque au sujet de la classification. Il est vrai que toute cette question se rattache aux négociations collectives, du moins, dans le sens suivant: Avant que nous puissions entreprendre les négociations collectives pour couvrir ces milliers d'employés du gouvernement qui ont droit à négocier nous devions faire des progrès appréciables en matière de classification et je suis heureux de dire au Comité qu'on a fait beaucoup de progrès et que nous sommes

[*Texte*]

servants. I am pleased to report to this Committee that, in fact, a great deal of progress has been made and we are well on our way to completion of the classification process. It is not entirely complete, but we are well on our way and we can now look to the very near future when this process will be complete. Having gone through the classification exercise, this facilitates and expedites the bargaining process.

The Minister explained that classifications as such are not subject to bargaining, they are not by law, but what the law does say is that where an employee is unhappy about a classification matter, he can bring in a grievance about it and there is a well-established grievance procedure whereby in respect of classification and other matters there is a due process established in the law and in the procedures and in the regulations for handling worries that public servants may have about the classification. You are correct, sir, in saying that in the early stages of classification, there were many worries on the part of many public servants that there is bound to be when you have to settle in what category and what class a particular employee falls. However, I do not think we have heard too much about that lately. It seems to be going reasonably well.

Mr. Mather: Do you feel that some progress has been made since the classification was laid down. There are difficulties we realize, in different departments and with different personnel, but on the whole do you think that progress has been made toward more of an agreement in regard to procedure and more satisfaction in individual cases, partly in respect to classification?

Mr. Reisman: Yes, sir. I think we can say with confidence that a great deal of progress has been made. There are not too many cases of grievances in respect of classification and in the collective bargaining process we do not hear too much about classification problems. Even though they are not bargainable, if there were such problems we would hear about them at the table.

Mr. Mather: Thank you.

Mr. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Just in this respect, Mr. Chairman, for example, the Department of Justice has trouble getting people to go to the Yukon or Northwest Territories to perform some of the functions of this Department. Could the Minister of Justice promote these people, jump them a couple of classifications in order to encourage them to take a job there. Is this type of wage increase or salary increase permissible? What is the situation? I am using this example as an illustration only, but I know this problem exists, that is why I mentioned it.

Mr. Drury: For the public service, generally, there is an assessment made of the qualifications needed or deemed to be needed to fill each particular post and to

[*Interprétation*]

en voie de terminer la classification en ce moment. Elle n'est pas tout à fait terminée mais nous croyons que dans un avenir proche elle le sera. Après avoir fait cette classification, le processus des négociations s'accélérera.

Le ministre a expliqué que la classification comme telle n'est pas une chose négociable aux termes de la loi, mais celle-ci stipule que lorsqu'un employé n'aime pas sa classification, il peut en faire un objet de grief. Il y a déjà une procédure de griefs très bien établie. Au sujet de la classification et d'autres questions, on a établi une procédure dans la loi pour régler tous les ennuis que les fonctionnaires pourraient avoir. Vous avez raison de dire que dans les premières étapes de la classification bien des fonctionnaires sont préoccupés par le fait qu'il faut décider dans quelle catégorie ou dans quelle classe ils appartiennent. Mais, depuis quelque temps tout semble bien aller.

M. Mather: Croyez-vous que certains progrès ont été réalisés depuis que la classification a été établie. Il existe des difficultés dans différents ministères et avec divers membres du personnel, mais dans l'ensemble pensez-vous qu'on en soit venu à une meilleure entente en ce qui concerne la procédure et pensez-vous que chacun soit satisfait de la classification.

M. Reisman: Oui, nous avons fait beaucoup de progrès. Il y a très peu de griefs relatifs à la classification et, dans la procédure des négociations collectives, nous ne recevons pas de plaintes à ce sujet. Si la chose était vraiment cause de problèmes, nous en entendrions parler.

M. Mather: Merci.

M. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): A ce propos, monsieur le président, le ministère de la Justice a du mal à envoyer des gens au Yukon et aux Territoires du Nord-Ouest, puis à exercer leurs fonctions. Le ministre de la Justice pourrait-il faire accorder une promotion à ces gens, afin de les encourager à aller travailler là-bas. Ce genre d'augmentation de salaire est-il possible? C'est une illustration, bien sûr, mais je sais que ce problème existe, c'est pourquoi je le mentionne.

M. Drury: Dans la fonction publique, en général, on fait une évaluation ou une appréciation de la compétence qui est jugée nécessaire pour remplir chaque

[*Text*]

these set of qualifications are attached a remuneration figure. It is the remuneration figure for that particular classification which is bargained and bargainable. The Minister of Justice, in establishing the need for a particular office, function or job being done in the Northwest Territories, will present his case to the classification board as to what is needed to be done, the kind of responsibilities it carries and these are equated by the Board to the rest of the public service to try to achieve some degree of co-ordination.

If, to take rather an absurd example, the Minister of Justice required the services of a blacksmith and this was the kind of classification needed to discharge this particular function in the Northwest Territories, it would not be possible for him, unilaterally, to call this

• 1640

man a professional engineer and pay him double the salary. This would not be possible. In effect, a department cannot reclassify, on their own, responsibilities and duties out of line with the general framework of the public service and corresponding functions in other departments merely because of difficulties in attracting people to a particular job.

Mr. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Then are you suggesting that in this case the Minister of Justice would have had no method whereby in a pay sense he could encourage a man to take a job in the Northwest Territories?

Mr. Drury: To meet this particular situation, and it is not peculiar either to the Northwest Territories or the Minister of Justice, there are a variety of additional incentives. One is the isolated post allowance which is designed to compensate for the unattractiveness or the disincentives of living in isolation or in isolated posts. There is also a supplementary cost-of-living allowance to compensate the additional costs involved to an individual and his family in living in these isolated posts and there are special leave provisions. There are a number of things.

From that—and this is always the case—what is right, appropriate and works in the summer of 1967 may no longer work in the summer of 1969 or the winter of 1969, and we have to keep these under review continuously to see that they are topical.

Mr. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

The Chairman: Are there any further questions, gentlemen?

This completes the study of the Estimates, 1969-70 relating to the Treasury Board. I wish to thank the Minister and the other witnesses who were here this afternoon. These votes will have to stand because we do not have a quorum at the moment.

Thank you very much.

Mr. Drury: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

[*Interpretation*]

poste. Et ces qualifications se rattachent à une échelle de rémunération ou de traitement. Il y a un traitement donné pour chaque catégorie qui est négociable et négociée et lorsque le ministre de la Justice établit les besoins pour un poste donné, doit faire valoir sa cause devant le commission de classification leur dire ce qu'il faut, quelles responsabilités entraîne le poste, et la commission elle-même l'étudie pour arriver à une sorte de péréquation dans toute la fonction publique.

Pour prendre un exemple un peu poussé, le ministre de la Justice requiert les services d'un forgeron. Voilà le genre de classification nécessaire pour ce genre de fonction dans les territoires du Nord-Ouest. Il ne serait pas possible pour lui, ou unilatéralement d'appeler ce forgeron «ingénieur professionnel» et de lui payer un traitement double. Un ministère ne peut pas reclassifier lui-même des fonctions et des responsabilités qui n'entrent pas dans le contexte général de la fonction publique, pour la raison qu'il est difficile de trouver des gens capables de remplir le poste.

M. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Voulez-vous dire que dans le cas actuel, le ministre de la Justice n'aurait pas eu de méthode pour encourager la personne à prendre le poste dans les Territoires du Nord-Ouest?

M. Drury: Pour faire face à cette situation qui n'est particulière ni aux Territoires du Nord-Ouest ni au ministre de la Justice, il y a diverses façons d'encourager les gens. Il y a, par exemple, les allocations de postes qui veulent compenser pour le manque d'attrait des centres éloignés, par exemple, pour les gens qui sont en poste dans des endroits isolés. Il y a aussi une allocation pour tenir compte des différences du coût de la vie pour la personne et sa famille. Il y a aussi des congés spéciaux. C'est un exemple général que je vous donne. C'est presque toujours le cas, ce qui est juste, approprié et en vigueur durant l'été de 1967 peut ne plus l'être durant l'été de 1969 ou l'hiver de 1969. Nous devons continuellement reviser les situations pour s'assurer qu'elles sont justes.

M. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Merci, monsieur le président.

Le président: Avez-vous d'autres questions, messieurs?

Eh bien, cela termine l'étude des prévisions budgétaires du Conseil du Trésor pour 1969-1970. Je voudrais remercier le ministre et les autres témoins qui sont venus cet après-midi. Nous n'avons pas le quorum et nous ne pouvons donc pas prendre le vote sur ces prévisions budgétaires.

M. Drury: Alors merci, monsieur le président.

The Queen's Printer, Ottawa, 1969 L'Imprimeur de la Reine, Ottawa, 1969

[*Text*]

these set of qualifications are attached a remuneration figure. It is the remuneration figure for that particular classification which is bargained and bargainable. The Minister of Justice, in establishing the need for a particular office, function or job being done in the Northwest Territories, will present his case to the classification board as to what is needed to be done, the kind of responsibilities it carries and these are equated by the Board to the rest of the public service to try to achieve some degree of co-ordination.

If, to take rather an absurd example, the Minister of Justice required the services of a blacksmith and this was the kind of classification needed to discharge this particular function in the Northwest Territories, it would not be possible for him, unilaterally, to call this

• 1640

man a professional engineer and pay him double the salary. This would not be possible. In effect, a department cannot reclassify, on their own, responsibilities and duties out of line with the general framework of the public service and corresponding functions in other departments merely because of difficulties in attracting people to a particular job.

Mr. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Then are you suggesting that in this case the Minister of Justice would have had no method whereby in a pay sense he could encourage a man to take a job in the Northwest Territories?

Mr. Drury: To meet this particular situation, and it is not peculiar either to the Northwest Territories or the Minister of Justice, there are a variety of additional incentives. One is the isolated post allowance which is designed to compensate for the inattractiveness or the disincentives of living in isolation or in isolated posts. There is also a supplementary cost of living allowance to compensate the additional costs involved to an individual and his family in living in these isolated posts and there are special leave provisions. There are a number of things.

From that—and this is always the case—what is right, appropriate and works in the summer of 1967 may no longer work in the summer of 1969 or the winter of 1969, and we have to keep these under review continuously to see that they are topical.

Mr. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

The Chairman: Are there any further questions, gentlemen?

That completes the study of the Estimates, 1969-70 relating to the Treasury Board. I wish to thank the Minister and the other witnesses who were here this afternoon. These votes will have to stand because we do not have a quorum at the moment.

Thank you very much.

Mr. Drury: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

The Queen's Printer, Ottawa, 1969

[*Interprétation*]

poste. Et ces qualifications se rattache et à une échelle de rémunération ou de traitement. Il y a un traitement donné pour chaque catégorie qui est négociable et négocié et lorsque le ministre de la Justice établit les besoins pour un poste donné, doit faire valoir sa cause devant la commission de classification lui dire ce qu'il faut, quelles responsabilités entraîne le poste, et la commission elle-même l'étudie pour arriver à une sorte de péréquation dans toute la fonction publique.

Pour prendre un exemple un peu poussé, le ministre de la Justice requiert les services d'un forgeron. Voilà le genre de classification nécessaire pour ce genre de fonction dans les territoires du Nord-Ouest. Il ne serait pas possible pour lui, ou unilatéralement d'appeler ce forgeron ingénieur professionnels et de lui payer un traitement double. Un ministère ne peut pas reclassifier lui-même des fonctions et des responsabilités qui n'entrent pas dans le contexte général de la fonction publique, pour la raison qu'il est difficile de trouver des gens capables de remplir le poste.

M. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Voulez-vous dire que dans le cas actuel, le ministre de la Justice n'aurait pas eu de méthode pour encourager la personne à prendre le poste dans les Territoires du Nord-Ouest?

M. Drury: Pour faire face à cette situation qui n'est particulière ni aux Territoires du Nord-Ouest ni au ministère de la Justice, il y a diverses façons d'encourager les gens. Il y a, par exemple, les allocations de postes qui veulent compenser pour le manque d'attrait des centres éloignés, par exemple, pour les gens qui sont en garnison dans des endroits isolés. Il y a aussi une allocation pour tenir compte des différences du coût de la vie pour la personne et sa famille. Il y a aussi des congés spéciaux. C'est un exemple général que je vous donne. C'est presque toujours le cas, ce qui est juste, approprié et en vigueur durant l'été de 1967 peut ne plus l'être durant l'été de 1969 ou l'hiver de 1969. Nous devons continuellement reviser les situations pour s'assurer qu'elles sont justes.

M. Thomson (Battleford-Kindersley): Merci, monsieur le président.

Le président: Avez-vous d'autres questions, messieurs?

Eh bien, cela termine l'étude des prévisions budgétaires du Conseil du Trésor pour 1969-1970. Je voudrais remercier le ministre et les autres témoins qui sont venus cet après-midi. Nous n'avons pas le quorum et nous ne pouvons donc pas prendre le vote sur ces prévisions budgétaires.

M. Drury: Alors merci, monsieur le président.

L'Imprimeur de la Reine, Ottawa, 1969

OFFICIAL BILINGUAL ISSUE

HOUSE OF COMMONS

First Session

Twenty-eighth Parliament, 1968-69

FASCICULE BILINGUE OFFICIEL

CHAMBRE DES COMMUNES

Première session de la

vingt-huitième législature, 1968-1969

STANDING COMMITTEE

ON

MISCELLANEOUS ESTIMATES

COMITÉ PERMANENT

DES

PRÉVISIONS BUDGÉTAIRES EN GÉNÉRAL

Chairman M. Fernand E. Leblanc *Président*

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

AND EVIDENCE

PROCÈS-VERBAUX ET

TÉMOIGNAGES

No. 20

THURSDAY, MAY 15, 1969

LE JEUDI 15 MAI 1969

Respecting

The Votes listed in the Main Estimates 1969-70, relating to the Governor General and the Lieutenant-Governors of the Provinces; The Senate and the Privy Council.

Concernant

Les crédits énumérés au budget principal de 1969-1970, concernant le Gouverneur général et les lieutenants-gouverneurs des provinces; le Sénat et le Conseil privé.

WITNESSES—TÉMOINS

(See Minutes of Proceedings)

(Voir le procès-verbal)

STANDING COMMITTEE
ON
MISCELLANEOUS ESTIMATES

COMITÉ PERMANENT
DES
PRÉVISIONS BUDGÉTAIRES
EN GÉNÉRAL

Chairman: M. Fernand E. Leblanc *Président.*

Vice-Chairman: Mr. Jack Cullen *Vice-président.*

and Messrs. et MM.

Alkenbrack,
Clermont,
Dumont,
Guay (*Lévis*),
[36]Guay (*St. Boniface*),
Gundlock,
Mather,
McCutcheon,
Noël,
Paproski,
Peddle,
Penner,
Portelance,
Ricard,
Robinson,
Rochon,
Thomson (*Battleford-Kindersley*),
Trudel—20.

Le secrétaire du Comité,
D. E. Levesque
Clerk of the Committee.

Pursuant to S.O. 65(4)(*b*)

[36]Replaced Mr. LeBlanc (*Rimouski*) on May 15, 1969.

Conformément à l'article 65 (4) *b*) du Règlement

[36]Remplace M. LeBlanc (*Rimouski*) le 15 mai 1969.

[*Text*]

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

THURSDAY, May 15, 1969.
(21)

The Standing Committee on Miscellaneous Estimates met this day at 3.50 p.m. The Chairman, Mr. Fernand Leblanc, presiding.

Members present: Messrs. Alkenbrack, Clermont, Guay (*St. Boniface*), Gundlock, Leblanc (*Laurier*), Mather, Penner—(7).

Witnesses: Mr. Yves Forest, Parliamentary Secretary to the President of the Privy Council; Mr. James Walker, Parliamentary Secretary to the Prime Minister and Mr. H. B. Stewart, Director of Administration, Privy Council.

The Chairman introduced the witnesses and the Committee began the study of the Main Estimates 1969-70, relating to the Governor General and Lieutenant-Governors of the Provinces; the Senate and the Privy Council.

Mr. Forest answered questions after which the following items were allowed to stand:

Vote 1, Office of the Secretary to the Governor General $614,000;

Vote 5, Grants to Lieutenant-Governors of the Provinces $145,000.

On Votes 1 and 5 relating to the Senate, it was *agreed* that the answer to Mr. Mather's question "Travel allowances paid to Senators compared to those allowed to the House of Commons", be made available to the Committee and appended to this day's evidence (*See Appendix "A"*).

It was also *agreed* that the answer to the question asked by Mr. Clermont "Pensions paid to retired Senators" be also appended (*See Appendix "B"*).

[*Traduction*]

PROCÈS-VERBAL

Le JEUDI 15 mai 1969.
(21)

Le Comité permanent des prévisions budgétaires en général se réunit à 15h. 50 cet après-midi sous la présidence de M. Fernand Leblanc.

Présents: MM. Alkenbrack, Clermont, Guay (*Saint-Boniface*), Gundlock, Leblanc (*Laurier*), Mather et Penner (7).

Témoins: Du Conseil privé: M. Yves Forest, secrétaire parlementaire du président; M. H. B. Stewart, directeur de l'administration. *Du Cabinet du premier ministre:* M. James Walker, secrétaire parlementaire du premier ministre.

Le président présente les témoins et le Comité commence l'étude des prévisions budgétaires de l'année 1969-1970 relatives au gouverneur général et aux lieutenants-gouverneurs des provinces, au Sénat et au Conseil privé.

M. Forest répond à des questions à la suite desquelles les crédits suivants sont réservés:

Crédit 1, Secrétariat du gouverneur général, $614,000;

Crédit 5, Subventions aux lieutenants-gouverneurs des provinces, $145,000.

Il est *décidé* que la réponse à la question de M. Mather, portant sur les crédits 1 et 5 relatifs au Sénat, «Allocations de voyage versées aux sénateurs en comparaison de celles qui sont permises à la Chambre des communes» soit mise à la disposition du Comité et imprimée en appendice aux témoignages de ce jour (*voir Appendice «A»*).

Il est de plus *décidé* que la réponse à la question de M. Clermont «Pensions versées aux sénateurs à la retraite» soit également imprimée en appendice (*voir Appendice «B»*).

Vote 1, Allowance in lieu of residence to the Speaker $3,000 and Vote 5, General Administration $2,049,500 were allowed to stand.

On the items relating to the Privy Council, Mr. Walker, with the assistance of Mr. Stewart answered questions.

The following items were studied and allowed to stand:

Vote 1, Operation and Maintenance of Prime Ministers residence $43,000;

Vote 5, Payment etc., $22,500;

Vote 10, General Administration $3,-468,000;

Vote 15, Expenses of Royal Commissions $2,062,300.

At 5.00 p.m., the Committee adjourned to the call of the Chair.

Le crédit 1, Indemnité de logement au président du Sénat, $3,000 et le crédit 5, Administration générale, $2,049,500 sont réservés.

M. Walker, avec l'aide de M. Stewart, répond à des questions portant sur les crédits relatifs au Conseil privé.

Les crédits suivants sont débattus et réservés:

Crédit 1, Entretien et administration de la résidence du premier ministre, $43,000;

Crédit 5, Nonobstant la Loi sur... etc., $22,500;

Crédit 10, Administration générale, $3,468,000;

Crédit 15, Dépenses des commissions royales d'enquête, $2,062,300.

A 5 h. 00, le Comité s'ajourne à la demande du président.

Le secrétaire du Comité,
D. E. Levesque,
Clerk of the Committee.

[*Texte*]

EVIDENCE

(Recorded by Electronic Apparatus)

Thursday, May 15, 1969

• 1549

The Chairman: Gentlemen, I call this meeting to order. First, we are going to study the estimates of the Governor General and Lieutenant-Governors. You will find the details in your Blue Book on pages 145 and 146. The witness will be Mr. Yves Forest, Parliamentary Secretary to the President of the Privy Council. I believe that Mr. Forest would like to make an opening statement. Mr. Forest?

Mr. Yves Forest (Parliamentary Secretary to the President of the Privy Council): Mr. Chairman and members of the Committee, the statement will be very short. It might be interesting to note that, according to the news, this is the first time that these estimates have been referred to a standing committee. They used to stay in the House where they were adopted very rapidly. I hope it will be the same in this Committee.

The estimates relating to the Governor General and Lieutenant-Governors are estimates for which the Minister of the Crown is responsible to the House and to this Committee, and in this instance it is the President of the Privy Council who has this responsibility. He is out of the country on official business, and I have the honour and duty to replace him. We are now ready to answer questions, relating to Vote 1 and Vote 5.

The Chairman: Mr. Clermont?

M. Clermont: Monsieur le président, je pose ma première question seulement par curiosité. Je vois, pour le gouverneur général, $48,667. Pourquoi a-t-on 667 au lieu d'un chiffre rond?

M. Forest: Monsieur Clermont, le salaire du gouverneur général est maintenant fixé par statut. On m'informe que le salaire était basé, anciennement, sur la livre. Lorsqu'on a changé les livres en dollars, on est arrivé à un chiffre impair et on a toujours gardé ce montant-là. L'autre montant est une simple coïncidence; ce sont les pensions qu'on paie aux veuves d'anciens gouverneurs généraux. C'est la raison pour laquelle c'est un chiffre de $48,667.

M. Clermont: Très bien.

[*Interprétation*]

TÉMOIGNAGES

(Enregistrement électronique)

Le jeudi 15 mai 1969

Le président: Messieurs, la séance est ouverte. Nous allons étudier tout d'abord les crédits du Gouverneur Général et des lieutenants-gouverneurs. Vous allez trouver les détails dans le livre bleu à la page 145 et 146 et le témoin sera monsieur Yves Forest, secrétaire parlementaire du président du Conseil privé. Et je crois que M. Forest voudrait faire une déclaration.

M. Yves Forest (secrétaire parlementaire du président du Conseil privé): Monsieur le président, membres du Comité, ma déclaration sera très brève. Vous savez que c'est la première fois que ces crédits sont déférés à un comité permanent et d'habitude c'était la Chambre qui les étudiait et les adoptait très rapidement. J'espère que le comité les étudiera aussi rapidement que la Chambre le faisait autrefois.

Tout d'abord, les crédits du gouverneur général et des lieutenants-gouverneurs sont la responsabilité du ministre de la Couronne qui doit répondre à la Chambre et au Comité. Dans le cas présent, c'est le président du Conseil privé qui a cette responsabilité. Ce dernier est à l'extérieur et j'ai donc l'honneur de le représenter ou de le remplacer. Si vous avez des questions au sujet du crédit 1 ou du crédit 5, je me ferai un plaisir d'y répondre.

Le président: Monsieur Clermont.

Mr. Clermont: Mr. Chairman, I put my first question only out of curiosity. I see, for the Governor General, $48,667. Why is it 667 instead of a round figure?

Mr. Forest: Mr. Clermont, the Governor General's salary is now fixed by Statute. I have been told that formerly, the salary was based on the pound sterling. Changing pounds into dollars produced an odd figure, and that amount has always been kept. The other amount is a simple coincidence; it is the pensions that are paid to widows of former Governors General. This is the reason why this figure amounts to $48,667.

Mr. Clermont: Fine.

[*Text*]

The Chairman: Are there any further questions? Mr. Mather?

Mr. Mather: Mr. Chairman, I do not know if I am in order in asking for information under Vote 1 about the money spent on Approximate Value of Major Services not included in these Estimates, which appears above Vote 1. If I am, I notice contributions to the Canada Pension Plan. Does this come in under this subject we are dealing with? The contributions to the Superannuation Account (Treasury Board) increased from $20,300 in 1968-69 to $45,700 in 1969-70. Could I ask you for an explanation of this?

Mr. Forest: These figures are not included in Votes 1 and 5. They are approximate values of services, which do not depend on the Governor General. They are fixed by law like the contributions to pension plans, and things similar to that. I suppose that these are fixed on the employees who are there, but I can not tell you exactly why the amount has increased. It is an approximate value of services, which is not included in the expenses of the Governor General and the Lieutenant-Governors. I cannot tell you the exact reason, Mr. Mather, for the increase.

Mr. Mather: On Vote 1 there is no increase. However, there seems to be a decrease in some of the expenditures, could you explain that, sir? For example, in the salary and wages.

• 1555

Mr. Forest: Mr. Mather, the main decrease, if you look at Vote 1, is in Transportation and Communications. Perhaps in one year the Governor General has travelled less than in the previous year or has sent fewer congratulatory messages, or something like that. I believe that this is the main difference there. On Continuing Employment, they might have a few less employees. There are two less this year in Continuing Employment than last year. I am informed that the actual number is not even that total. The actual number of employes who work on the grounds and house maintenance, cooks and secretaries, actually total 71.

Mr. Mather: Taking a quick look at Vote 1 and scanning through the following Vote, it seems to me that this is one of the very few areas in which the expenses have not increased, but have tended to remain static or even drop somewhat. Do you know the record for the previous years, and the amounts which the public pays for the Governor General and the Lieutenant-Governors of the country?

[*Interpretation*]

Le président: D'autres questions? Monsieur Mather.

M. Mather: Monsieur le président, je ne sais pas si, au sujet du crédit 1, je peux me renseigner au sujet de l'argent dépensé pour certaines grandes dépenses qui ne sont pas dans ces crédits, sont au-dessus du crédit 1. Par exemple, je constate qu'il y a des versements au régime de pension du Canada. Est-ce que ceci relève de la question que nous étudions? Par exemple, les versements à la caisse de retraite (Conseil du Trésor) sont passés de $20,300 en 1968-1969 à $45,700 en 1969-1970. Puis-je avoir une explication à ce sujet?

M. Forest: Ces chiffres ne sont pas compris dans les crédits 1 et 5. Il s'agit d'une approximation qui ne se rattache pas au crédit du gouverneur général. C'est fixé par la loi comme les versements aux fonds de pension. Je pense que ce sont des dépenses qui sont destinées aux employés, mais je ne sais pas pourquoi ce montant a été augmenté. Cela représente une valeur approximative des services non comprise dans les dépenses du gouverneur général et des lieutenants-gouverneurs. Je ne connais pas la raison de cette augmentation.

M. Mather: Pour le crédit 1, il n'y a pas eu d'augmentation. Il semble y avoir une diminution des dépenses; pourriez-vous nous l'expliquer? Par exemple, pour les salaires et traitements.

M. Forest: La principale diminution est dans le domaine des transports et communications. Le gouverneur général a peut-être moins voyagé que l'année précédente ou peut-être qu'il a envoyé moins de messages de félicitations. Voilà où se trouve la différence. En ce qui concerne les emplois continus, il y a peut-être moins d'employés au service du gouverneur général, il y en a deux de moins, paraît-il, mais ce n'est peut-être même pas tout à fait ce nombre. Les employés actuels qui travaillent chez le gouverneur général, à sa propriété sont au nombre de 71.

M. Mather: Il semble donc que c'est un des seuls secteurs où les dépenses n'ont pas augmenté, elles ont même peut-être un peu diminué. Vous ne sauriez pas, par exemple, quelle était la situation auparavant, combien le public paie pour le gouverneur général et les lieutenants-gouverneurs au Canada. Quand a-t-on porté leur crédit à ce niveau-là? Il a dû y avoir un ajustement si nous maintenons

[*Texte*]

When did they increase to their present level? There must have been an adjustment upward, at some time, if we maintain this service, and the costs, and approve the increase.

Mr. Forest: I am informed, Mr. Mather, that we do not have figures for previous years. The amount for the Lieutenant-Governors of the provinces has remained quite steady for many years. The amounts of Vote 1 will not necessarily increase, and I think they will remain quite steady, although the expenses, especially concerning the Order of Canada, have increased because of the requirement of additional staff, the purchase of medals, high mailing costs, and things like that. They expect that they will remain basically at that figure, and should not increase.

Mr. Mather: I understand that some provinces maintain residences for Lieutenant-Governors, whereas others do not. Which provinces do or do not maintain residences for the Lieutenant-Govenors?

Mr. Forest: I have no breakdown of this information. I know that in Quebec they do have a residence for a Lieutenant-Governor.

Mr. Mather: I come from British Columbia and there is a Lieutenant-Governors residence there, also.

Mr. Forest: We do not have the exact figures, but we believe that Saskatchewan and perhaps Nova Scotia do not provide a residence. We are not sure.

Mr. Mather: One last question. Could you tell me whether or not the cost of construction or maintenance of Lieutenant-Governors type of residences are paid or shared through federal expenditures?

Mr. Forest: No, I believe they are paid by the provincial governments. We pay the salary and a grant for costs; for example, travelling and hospitality...

Mr. Mather: The federal government pays the operating cost including the salary, and the provinces pay for their establishment.

Mr. Forest: I think the main expenses are paid by the provincial governments because the cost of maintaining a home and employees is far higher than the amount which we pay for travelling or representation costs.

Mr. Mather: Regarding the fact that it actually costs more in many cases for the Lieutenant-Governor, or possibly the Governor General, to fulfil his office than he is paid, I

[*Interprétation*]

ce service, payons les frais et approuvons l'augmentation.

M. Forest: On me dit, monsieur Mather, que nous n'avons pas les chiffres pour ceci, mais en tout cas, en ce qui concerne les lieutenants-gouverneurs le chiffre est le même depuis nombre d'années et ce montant du crédit 1 n'a pas augmenté, je pense qu'il est resté stable. Il y a eu augmentation pour l'Ordre du Canada, le prix des médailles à cause du personnel supplémentaire requis, du prix d'achat des médailles, des frais postaux, etc. Je pense que ceci restera à un niveau fixe.

M. Mather: Je crois savoir que certaines provinces ont des résidences pour leur lieutenant-gouverneur et d'autres n'en ont pas. Pourriez-vous préciser quelles sont les provinces qui ont ou n'ont pas de résidence pour leur lieutenant-gouverneur?

M. Forest: Je n'ai pas ces renseignements. Je sais qu'à Québec on a une résidence pour le lieutenant-gouverneur.

M. Mather: Je viens de Colombie-Britannique, où il y a aussi une résidence pour le lieutenant-gouverneur.

M. Forest: Nous n'avons pas ces chiffres, mais nous pensons que la Saskatchewan et peut-être la Nouvelle-Écosse ne fournissent pas de résidence à leur lieutenant-gouverneur.

M. Mather: Pouvez-vous me dire si le coût de la construction et de l'entretien des résidences des lieutenants-gouverneurs est payé par le fédéral ou s'il y a partage du frais avec les provinces?

M. Forest: Je crois que ce sont les provinces qui paient. Nous payons le traitement et versons une subvention ou une allocation de frais de voyages, d'hospitalité, etc...

M. Mather: Le fédéral paie les dépenses d'entretien, y compris les traitements, et les provinces paient pour les résidences.

M. Forest: Je crois que les principales dépenses sont payées par les provinces parce que l'entretien d'une résidence et d'un personnel dépasse de beaucoup ce que nous allouons pour les voyages et la représentation.

M. Mather: Si l'on tient compte du fait qu'il en coûte plus dans bien des cas pour le lieutenant-gouverneur, ou même pour le gouverneur général, que ce qu'il reçoit, je sais qu'en

[*Text*]

know, in the case of British Columbia, that it costs more for the Lieutenant-Governor to operate than he actually has in the way of income from the state. One criticism of it has been that it precludes people who do not have a great deal of money from occupying those positions. I know this does not come up under our Votes, but it seems to me it has some bearing on our consideration of the offices and the services that are being maintained. I think that if we have Lieutenant-Governors in the provinces then the positions should be open to anybody, regardless of his or her personal income, and should be paid for by the public, if they wish to maintain that office.

Mr. Forest: I believe that this is a fact. It takes a man of some means to occupy these positions, because the expenses are far above the amount they receive.

Mr. Mather: This is true.

Mr. Forest: The salaries or expenses would have to be increased quite considerably so that these positions could be filled by people of less means.

Mr. Mather: That concludes my questions, Mr. Chairman.

The Chairman: Mr. Alkenbrack.

Mr. Alkenback: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Just briefly I would like to congratulate my colleague Mr. Forest for being the witness here today. It must be quite an interesting subject because it is the very basis upon which our constitutional monarchy and our responsible government was founded.

I had the honour to be a guest of the late Lieutenant-Governor of Quebec, Mr. Comtois, one time at Bois-de-Coulonges and I admired the residence at the time, but of course since then it has burned. Are they going to rebuild it?

Mr. Forest: First I wish to thank you for your remark although I must confess that I am not an expert witness on this. However, I think I am right that the province of Quebec is rebuilding the Bois-de-Coulonges, in practically the same way as it was before, though perhaps it will be a bit more fireproof. If it is not finished, it should be completed quite soon.

Mr. Alkenbrack: Yes, it is a beautiful residence.

The Order of Canada has been mentioned and I was wondering in what column the expenditures for the Order of Canada are to be found.

[*Interpretation*]

Colombie-Britannique il en coûte plus, pour le lieutenant-gouverneur, en frais divers que ce qu'il reçoit de l'État. On a déjà dit que cela empêche les moins fortunés d'occuper ce poste. Je sais que cela n'entre pas dans le cadre de notre étude des crédits, mais il me semble que ceci se reflète sur notre opinion des bureaux et des services qu'on maintient. Et je pense que si nous avons des lieutenants-gouverneurs dans les provinces, cette position doit être ouverte à tous, quel que soit leur revenu, et je pense que le public doit accepter de payer les frais, s'il veut maintenir ce poste.

M. Forest: Je crois que c'est vrai. Cela prend un homme assez fortuné pour occuper ces postes parce que les dépenses sont de loin supérieures aux montants alloués par l'État.

M. Mather: C'est exact.

M. Forest: Les traitements ou dépenses devraient être augmentés très sensiblement pour que ces postes puissent être remplis par des gens qui ont moins de biens.

M. Mather: J'ai terminé mes questions, monsieur le président.

Le président: Monsieur Alkenbrack.

M. Alkenbrack: Merci, monsieur le président; je tiens à féliciter M. Forest qui vient témoigner ici aujourd'hui. Ce doit être un sujet très intéressant parce que c'est le fondement même sur lequel notre monarchie constitutionnelle et notre gouvernement responsable ont été fondés.

J'ai eu l'honneur d'être l'invité de M. Comtois, l'ancien lieutenant-gouverneur de la province de Québec, à Bois-de-Coulonges, et j'ai alors admiré cette résidence, mais elle a depuis été incendiée. Va-t-on la reconstruire?

M. Forest: Je dois dire que je ne peux pas vous donner beaucoup de renseignements à ce sujet-là, mais je pense que je peux dire que le gouvernement compte reconstruire la résidence de Bois-de-Coulonges à peu près selon le même plan, qu'autrefois, mais plus à l'épreuve du feu. Si elle n'est pas encore achevée, elle devrait l'être bientôt.

M. Alkenbrack: Oui, c'est une résidence d'ailleurs magnifique.

L'Ordre du Canada a été mentionné, je me demandais dans quelle colonne trouver les dépenses pour l'Ordre du Canada?

[*Texte*]

Mr. Forest: I am informed, Mr. Alkenbrack, that they are not separated. They would be part of Vote 1 under Utilities, Materials and Supplies. This is for the medals themselves and communications in connection with sending them out. There is no breakdown for the Order of Canada itself. It has been absorbed by the different services attached to the Governor General.

We could file the number of medals. I think questions have been asked in the House concerning this and if you look up *Hansard* you will find all the details of the medals that were awarded to prominent Canadian citizens.

Mr. Alkenbrack: I notice that Vote 1 this year is $614,900 as against $685,400 last year which is a reduction of $71,000. Does that include the Lieutenant-Governors?

Mr. Forest: No. The salaries are statutory and are to be found on page 145, and the grants for costs of travelling and hospitality

• 1605

are in Vote 5. These amounts have been fairly even over the years.

Mr. Alkenbrack: I think we should commend the Treasury Board under which this comes, Mr. Chairman, for it being $71,000 less this year than last year. That is something unusual, not only in Ottawa but in every other level of government.

Mr. Forest: For your information Mr. Alkenbrack, I am informed on the Order of Canada that at the beginning that there was such a demand and an increased staff and more medals, that it meant more expenses and that explains, partially anyway, why the amount has gone down since last year.

Mr. Alkenbrack: Thank you.

The Chairman: Mr. Penner, do you pass? Any further questions on Vote 1, Office of the Secretary to the Governor General? Any questions on Vote 5, Grants to the Lieutenant-Governors of the Provinces?

We will call the other votes for the Senate and we will have the same witness, Mr. Yves Forest. For the Senate you will find the details on pages 288 and 289. Vote 1 is Allowance in lieu of Residence to the Speaker, $3,000; and Vote 5, General Administration, $2,049,500.

Mr. Forest: Mr. Chairman, the same remarks apply to these estimates: the Senate

[*Interprétation*]

M. Forest: On me dit, monsieur Alkenbrack, que ces dépenses ne sont pas séparées. Elles feraient partie du crédit 1, sous le titre Services de ville, fournitures et approvisionnements. C'est pour les médailles elles-mêmes et pour les communications en vue de les envoyer. Il n'y a pas de crédit pour l'Ordre du Canada. Les divers services du gouverneur général absorbent ces frais.

Nous pourrions classer le nombre des médailles. Je pense que des questions ont été posées à la Chambre à ce sujet, et vous pouvez trouver, dans le Hansard tous les détails au sujet des médailles qui ont été accordées à d'éminents citoyens canadiens.

M. Alkenbrack: Je constate que le crédit 1, cette année est de $614,900, comparativement à $685,400 l'an dernier, ce qui fait une diminution de $71,000. Est-ce que ceci comprend les lieutenants-gouverneurs?

M. Forest: Non. Les traitements sont statutaires, comme vous le trouverez à la page 145, et les subventions à titre d'indemnité pour les frais de voyage et de réception se trouvent au crédit 5. Ces montants sont demeurés assez semblables au cours des années passées.

M. Alkenbrack: Monsieur le président, nous devrions faire l'éloge du conseil du Trésor de qui cela relève, parce que cela représente $71,000 de moins que l'année dernière. C'est tout à fait extraordinaire, non seulement à Ottawa, mais à tous les paliers gouvernementaux.

M. Forest: A titre de renseignement, monsieur Alkenbrack, on me dit au sujet de l'Ordre du Canada qu'au début, il y avait tellement de demandes, un personnel accru, et plus de médailles, que cela représentait plus de dépenses, c'est ce qui explique pourquoi le montant avait augmenté, puis a diminué depuis l'année dernière.

M. Alkenbrack: Merci.

Le président: Monsieur Penner, pas de question? Autres questions sur le crédit 1—Secrétariat du gouverneur général? Sur le crédit 5—Subventions aux lieutenants-gouverneurs des provinces?

Alors nous mettrons à l'étude les autres crédits pour le Sénat, et nous entendrons le même témoin, M. Yves Forest. Pour le Sénat, vous allez trouver les détails à la page 288 et 289. Le crédit 1 est l'indemnité de logement au président, $3,000; et le crédit 5, Administration général, $2,049,500.

M. Forest: Monsieur le président, les mêmes observations s'appliquent à ces prévi-

[*Text*]

is not responsible to the House of Commons, but the ministry is responsible for the costs of operating the Senate. It has been decided it is the President of the Privy Council again who would be responsible to the House and this committee for this.

With the same reserve as before, I am ready to answer questions where I have the information here.

M. Clermont: A la page 288, je vois, pour les personnes qui ont siégé à l'autre endroit, et qui sont à leur retraite, une somme de $90,000. Pourrait-on connaître le nombre de ceux qui ont pris leur retraite et qui ont bénéficié de ces $90,000?

M. Forest: Je pourrai vous fournir ce renseignement plus tard. Je ne l'ai pas ici, évidemment, car ce sont des dépenses statutaires, et on n'a pas indiqué le nombre de ceux qui en bénéficient. Je vais essayer d'obtenir ce renseignement du Sénat, pour vous le fournir ainsi qu'aux autres membres du Comité, s'ils le désirent.

M. Clermont: Merci, M. Forest. Je remarque, monsieur le président, à la page 289, au poste «Information», le montant prévu pour 1969-1970 est de $375,000, alors que pour 1968-1969 il était de $260,000. Monsieur Forest, êtes-vous en mesure de nous expliquer la différence?

M. Forest: Oui, monsieur Clermont. Ce montant couvre le coût d'impression du Journal des Débats du Sénat, des journaux, des rapports des différents comités du Sénat. Or, comme il y a eu un accroissement dans ce domaine, notamment des comités spéciaux, comme le comité du Sénat sur la pauvreté et le comité spécial de la politique scientifique. Les prévisions pour cette année sont beaucoup plus élevées que l'an passé à cause du travail supplémentaire des sénateurs, spécialement au sein des Comités. L'augmentation est due surtout à l'impression du journal des débats du Sénat et des Comités du Sénat.

M. Clermont: A la même page, soit 289, au poste «Toutes autres dépenses», je lis pour 1969-1970 des prévisions pour un total de $85,000 et pour 1968-1969, je lis $26,000. Je crois que...

M. Forest: Monsieur Clermont, c'est à peu près pour la même raison, les dépenses croissent, particulièrement celles des témoins, celles des compte rendus des conseillers juridiques, des services de recherche, du personnel supplémentaire, particulièrement pour les Comités spéciaux, et c'est ce qui impose cette dépense additionnelle.

[*Interpretation*]

sions budgétaires: le Sénat n'est pas responsable à la Chambre des communes, mais évidemment, le ministère est responsable des frais de fonctionnement des services sénatoriaux. Il a été décidé que c'est encore le président du Conseil privé qui serait responsable de cela à la Chambre et au présent Comité.

Avec les mêmes réserves qu'auparavant, je suis disposé à répondre à toutes les questions dans la mesure où j'ai les renseignements ici.

Mr. Clermont: On page 288, I see that for persons who sat in the other place, and who are retired, a sum of $90,000. Could we know the number of those persons who are retired and who have benefited from this amount?

Mr. Forest: I shall be able to give you that information later on. I do not have it here because those are statutory expenditures, and the number of those who benefit from this has not been indicated. I shall try to obtain this information from the Senate and give it to you and to other members of the Committee, if they wish to have it.

Mr. Clermont: Thank you, Mr. Forest. I notice, Mr. Chairman, that on page 289, under the item "Information", the amount provided for 1969-70 is $375,000, while it was $260,000 for 1968-69. Could you explain to us this difference, Mr. Forest?

Mr. Forest: Yes, Mr. Clermont. This amount covers the printing cost of the Debates of the Senate, the newspapers, and the reports of the various Committees of the Senate. Since there has been an increase in this field, namely of special committees, for instance the Senate Committee on Poverty and the Special Committee on Science Policy. The estimates for this year are much higher than last year because of the additional work of the Senators, especially in the committees. The increase is due mostly for the printing of the Debates of the Senate and of the Senate Committees.

Mr. Clermont: Still on page 289, under the item "All Other Expenditures", I read for 1969-70 estimates to the amount of $85,000, and for 1968-69, $26,000. I believe that ...

Mr. Forest: Mr. Clermont, it is more or less for the same reason here. Expenditures are increasing, especially for witnesses, reporting of debates, legal advisers, research services, additional personnel, particularly for Special Committees, and this explains the additional expense.

[*Texte*]

M. Clermont: Merci, monsieur le président.

Le président: Monsieur Forest, pouvez-vous expliquer au poste «Traitements et Salaires» l'augmentation à $1,440,000 à partir de $1,219,600.

M. Forest: La principale cause d'augmentation, ce sont les salaires du personnel du Sénat qui est plus grand, et évidemment, il y a aussi l'accroissement naturel dû aux augmentations de salaire du personnel, car d'après ces chiffres le personnel est resté sensiblement le même.

M. Guay (Saint-Boniface): Pourrais-je poser une question complémentaire? Est-ce que le Sénat a certains privilèges que les députés n'ont pas? Les sénateurs ont-ils droit à des dépenses plus élevées qu'un député? En d'autres mots, ont-ils droit, par exemple, à un billet d'avion de première classe, alors qu'un député n'a droit qu'à la classe économique? Ont-ils des avantages que les députés n'ont pas, en ce qui concerne les dépenses de voyage?

M. Forest: Sous toute réserve, monsieur Guay, je crois que les dépenses sont sensiblement les mêmes. Par exemple, je crois que leur allocation pour les déplacements par automobile est exactement la même que celle des députés. En avion, ils voyagent dans les mêmes conditions. Je ne crois pas qu'il y ait de différences tangibles au point de vue des dépenses.

M. Guay (Saint-Boniface): Merci.

Le président: Monsieur Guay, la principale différence réside dans le fait qu'au lieu d'avoir 6 mille dollars de dépenses, ils n'ont que 3 mille dollars. Évidemment, ils siègent moins souvent et ont moins de dépenses que nous à Ottawa.

M. Clermont: Monsieur le président, il y a aussi une différence sur le plan de la stabilité.

M. Forest: Je sais qu'ils ne sont pas obligés d'affronter des élections. Mais ils ont 15 mille dollars en salaire au lieu de 18 mille, dont 12 mille sont taxables et 3 mille non taxables. De plus, je crois que leur présence est contrôlée au Sénat; s'ils n'ont pas de certificat, ils sont pénalisés pour leur absence.

Mr. Mather: Mr. Chairman, on page 288 I see an item for members of the Senate, Telecommunication Expenses $20,000. Would you explain that to me. Does that indicate the members of the Senate have free telecommunication services to some extent?

[*Interprétation*]

Mr. Clermont: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

The Chairman: Mr. Forest, could you explain the increase from $1,219,600 to $1,440,000 under the item "Salaries and Wages"?

Mr. Forest: The principal cause for the increase is because the salaries of Senate personnel have been raised, and of course, there is also the natural due to pay raises of members of the staff, because according to the figures we have, the staff would be approximately the same.

Mr. Guay (Saint-Boniface): May I ask a supplementary question? Does the Senate have certain privileges that the members of the House do not have? Are Senators entitled to higher amounts for their expenses than M.P.s? In other words, are they entitled, for instance, to get first class air transport, whereas an M.P. is entitled only to the tourist class? Do they have certain advantages which M.P.s do not have, as far as travelling expenses are concerned?

Mr. Forest: I would say, Mr. Guay, that expenses are more or less the same. Their travelling expenses by car are exactly the same as those of M.P.s; the same goes for air travel. I do not believe there are any tangible differences, regarding expenses.

Mr. Guay (Saint-Boniface): Thank you.

The Chairman: The main difference, Mr. Guay, lies in the fact that instead of having $6,000 for expenses, they have $3,000, because they sit less often and they have less expenses than we in Ottawa.

Mr. Clermont: Mr. Chairman, there is also a difference with regard to stability.

Mr. Forest: I know that they do not have to face any elections. But they get $15,000 instead of $18,000, of which $12,000 are taxable, and $3,000 are not. Moreover, I believe that their attendance is controlled in the Senate, and if they do not have a certificate, they are penalized for their absence.

M. Mather: Monsieur le président, à la page 288, je vois un article pour les sénateurs, dépenses de télécommunications, $20,000. Pouvez-vous m'expliquer cela? Est-ce que cela indique que les sénateurs ont des services de télécommunication gratuits dans une certaine mesure?

[*Text*]

Mr. Forest: I believe they have the same privileges as members of Parliament, but I may stand corrected.

Mr. Mather: We do not have free telecommunication services as members of Parliament.

Mr. Forest: That must be for statutory expenses which are not covered here, so I have no details on that. They are covered by statutes. Whether they are payments for the telephones. I do not know. I do not believe they have more privileges than we have as far as sending telegrams is concerned. I believe they have to pay for them. They have the same telephone privileges as we have.

Mr. Walker: My only suggestion might be, Mr. Chairman, that these are a general type of charges against the House of Commons estimates in terms of charges to us by Bell Telephone, anything to do with communications, the direct lines that are operated. I presume they are open to the Senate, too. I suggest this is the Senate share of the general charge for services by the communications people that are supplying them in the Senate.

Mr. Mather: In other words, the Senators have similar privileges and expenses in this way as the members of the House of Commons have.

Mr. Walker: That would be my guess.

The Chairman: I know one thing, they have telephone answering service in their office when they are not there. If I try to call a Senator his telephone is answered by the telephone answering service although I must point out that their secretaries are not in their offices. They have one secretary for about four Senators, or three Senators. The secretaries are in a pool and somebody has to answer the phone when the Senate is sitting, so they have the telephone answering service.

Mr. Mather: That is a very interesting point, Mr. Chairman, I was in ignorance of. I have no doubt in round terms the Senators have the same services and financial aid that members of the House of Commons have. It may not be a particularly pertinent point on this vote, but I wonder if somebody could supply me with an explanation of the services, amenities and facilities which the Senators have so that I could compare them to those available to members of the House of Commons.

Mr. Forest: I believe I can get this information for you from the Clerk of the Senate and

[*Interpretation*]

M. Forest: Je crois qu'ils ont les mêmes privilèges que les députés, mais je peux me tromper.

M. Mather: Nous n'avons pas les services gratuits de télécommunications comme députés.

M. Forest: Ce sont peut-être les dépenses statutaires qui ne sont pas couvertes ici. Je n'ai donc pas de détails ici. Elles sont couvertes par des statuts. Je ne sais pas s'il s'agit de paiements pour téléphones, mais je ne pense pas qu'ils aient plus de privilèges que nous en ce qui concerne l'envoi de télégrammes. Je crois qu'ils doivent les payer. Ils ont les mêmes privilèges téléphoniques que nous.

M. Walker: Ma suggestion serait que ce sont des services qui en général sont chargés aux prévisions budgétaires de la Chambre des communes en fonction des frais que nous demande Bell Canada, de tout ce qui se rapporte aux communications, les lignes directes qui fonctionnent. J'imagine qu'elles sont aussi à la disposition du Sénat. Je crois que c'est la part qui revient au Sénat du partage des frais généraux pour les services que lui fournissent les compagnies de télécommunication.

M. Mather: En d'autres termes, les sénateurs jouissent des mêmes privilèges et dépenses, de cette manière, que les députés.

M. Walker: C'est là mon idée.

Le président: Je sais qu'ils ont un service de réponse téléphonique dans leur bureau quand ils n'y sont pas. Souvent quand on téléphone à un sénateur, il y a un service de réponse téléphonique, et les secrétaires ne sont pas non plus dans leur bureau. Ils ont une secrétaire pour 4 sénateurs ou 3 sénateurs. Les secrétaires sont dans un centre et quelqu'un doit pouvoir répondre à leur téléphone quand ils sont au Sénat; donc ils ont un service de réponse téléphonique.

M. Mather: Monsieur le président, c'est un point très intéressant. Je n'en étais pas au courant. Je n'ai aucun doute que d'une façon générale, les sénateurs ont les mêmes services et la même assistance financière que les députés. En somme, ce n'est peut-être pas un point particulièrement pertinent à ce crédit, mais j'aimerais avoir une explication des services, des commodités et des installations dont jouissent les sénateurs afin que nous puissions les comparer à ceux des députés.

M. Forest: Je pourrais obtenir ces renseignements. Je les demanderai au secrétaire du

[*Texte*]

I will ask him. I can give it to you, Mr. Mather, in the next few days. You wish a comparison of the services available to Senators compared to members of the House of Commons.

Mr. Mather: Yes.

The Chairman: If the Committee agrees, perhaps that could be sent to the Clerk and printed as an appendix to our proceedings.

Mr. Guay (St. Boniface): On that one point, Mr. Chairman, if I may, I do not want you to get the idea that I am trying to stall the questioning on these matters, but I have not had too much time to look these particular estimates over because I have been serving on other committees, as you know. I do not know offhand how many members of the Senate there are, but on page 289 the total amount of expenditures in regard to the Senate is $2.049 million dollars.

An hon. Member: That is the staff.

Mr. Guay (St. Boniface): That is just the staff. Does that not include the members of the Senate?

The Chairman: No, I believe that does not include the salaries of the Senators.

Mr. Clermont: That is the staff.

Mr. Forest: This is a statutory item these are expenses for salaries, transportation and repairs and the rest as mentioned in Vote 5, General Administration.

M. Clermont: Monsieur le président, notre collègue trouvera le traitement des sénateurs à la page 287; c'est un total de $1.16 millions.

Le président: Merci, monsieur Clermont.

Mr. Guay (St. Boniface): Taking that into consideration to see if my question makes any sense at all, let us take the reference that has been made by Mr. Clermont as well as the amount which I just mentioned, $2.049 million, and compare it, for example, to the expenses of the House of Commons. What kind of a batting average do we make out of it? From just a quick look it would seem that it is relatively high if you do compare it to the House of Commons.

M. Clermont: A la page 293, vous verrez que le crédit 20, concernant la Chambre des Communes, s'établit à $7,336,200. Or, on a environ 102 sénateurs et 264 députés.

Mr. Forest: There is a Vote 20 on General Administration and the total would be $10 million.

[*Interprétation*]

Sénat et je vous les ferai remettre bientôt, monsieur Mather. Vous voulez une comparaison des services à la disposition des sénateurs par rapport aux députés.

M. Mather: Oui.

Le président: Si le Comité est d'accord, nous pourrions envoyer cela au secrétaire du Comité qui le fera annexer au compte rendu de la réunion.

M. Guay (Saint-Boniface): Si vous me le permettez, monsieur le président, je ne voudrais pas retarder les questions sur ces points, mais je n'ai pas eu le temps d'étudier ces prévisions budgétaires particulières à fond étant donné que je travaillais à d'autres comités, comme vous le savez. Je ne sais pas combien de sénateurs vous avez, mais si on regarde à la page 289, le montant total des dépenses en ce qui concerne le Sénat, si je ne me trompe, il s'agit de $2,049,000.

Une voix: Il s'agit du personnel.

M. Guay (Saint-Boniface): C'est simplement le personnel. Cela ne comprend pas les sénateurs?

Le président: Non, cela ne comprend pas le traitement des sénateurs.

M. Clermont: C'est le personnel.

M. Forest: Il s'agit ici d'une question statutaire. Il s'agit de dépenses pour traitements, transports, réparations, etc., comme on l'a mentionné au crédit 5, Administration générale.

Mr. Clermont: Mr. Chairman, our colleague will find the salaries of senators on page 287. The total amount is $1.16 million.

The Chairman: Thank you, Mr. Clermont.

M. Guay (Saint-Boniface): Prenons, par exemple, pour voir si ma question a du sens, la mention de M. Clermont et aussi le montant que je viens de mentionner, $2,049,000, et comparons-le aux dépenses de la Chambre des communes. Où est-ce qu'on en arrive? Il semble que c'est relativement élevé, si vous le comparez à la Chambre.

Mr. Clermont: On page 293, you will notice that vote No. 20, concerning the House of Commons, amounts to $7,336,200. Now, there are approximately 102 senators and 264 MPs.

M. Forest: Il y a un crédit 20 sous Administration générale et le total serait 10 millions de dollars.

[*Text*]

Mr. Clermont: Yes, I know, it is only one item.

Mr. Alkenbrack: That takes care of all.

Mr. Clermont: You are right, ten million. Pour la Chambre des communes, et non pas pour l'autre endroit.

M. Forest: A la Chambre des communes, c'est 5 fois le montant du Sénat.

Le président: Adressez-vous à la présidence, s'il vous plaît. Monsieur Mather?

Mr. Mather: I have one other question just before I conclude. On page 289, in regard to the Senate expenses, they have an item here Information 1968-69 $230,000, 1969-70, $375,-000. Could you explain what that means?

Mr. Forest: As I explained in French to Mr. Clermont, these would cover the cost for the printing of the Senate Debates, the printing of the Journals, the Standing Committee Reports, the printing of the Special Committee Reports and there have been quite a few of these in 1969-70 and I mentioned the Special Senate Committee on Science, the Special Senate Committee on Poverty. They have had long sittings, a lot of evidence, a lot of printing, expert witnesses and so on and that would explain why the costs have increased considerably. That would cover especially the printing of these reports.

Mr. Mather: Thank you. That is all, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. Gundlock: I just want to add a little comment. I appreciate very much the work the Senate has done, particularly on another committee with Bill S-29. This explains exactly what the witness has been saying. It takes a great deal of expenditure. Those of you who are familiar with Bill S-29 will know that the Senate is doing real work.

Mr. Forest: Like the Divorce Committee, which was a joint committee, or a joint effort; but the expenses were on the Senate.

Mr. Gundlock: I was referring specifically to Bill S-29 from the Senate. That is a new bill that Canada needs, and needs very quickly. The Senate has done some real work on this, and it was very expensive.

Mr. Forest: Which one was that; Mr. Gundlock?

Mr. Gundlock: Bill S-29, the subject matter of which was oil and gas in the Territories and the Yukon.

Mr. Guay (St. Boniface): I am not trying to contradict the gentleman on my right, who

[*Interpretation*]

M. Clermont: Oui, je sais, ce n'est qu'un article.

M. Alkenbrack: Cela explique tout.

M. Clermont: Vous avez raison, 10 millions. This is for the House of Commons, not for the other place.

Mr. Forest: For the House of Commons it is five times the amount of the Senate.

The Chairman: Would you please talk to the Chair! Mr. Mather?

M. Mather: J'ai une autre question avant de terminer. A la page 289, en ce qui concerne les dépenses du Sénat, il y a un article ici, Information $230,000 pour 1968-69 et $375,000 pour 1969-70. Qu'est-ce que cela veut dire?

M. Forest: Comme je l'ai expliqué en français à M. Clermont, ceci couvre les frais d'impression pour le journal des débats du Sénat, les rapports des Comités spéciaux, et il y en a eu pas mal en 1969-70, et j'ai mentionné le Comité spécial du Sénat sur la pauvreté. Ils se sont réunis très souvent avec beaucoup de témoins, ils ont eu beaucoup d'impression et des témoins spécialistes, et ceci explique l'augmentation considérable de ces dépenses. Il s'agit surtout de l'impression de ces rapports.

M. Mather: Merci, c'est tout, monsieur le président.

M. Gundlock: Seulement un commentaire. J'apprécie beaucoup ce que les sénateurs ont fait, surtout au sein d'un autre comité, avec le bill S-29. Il faut, comme l'a dit le témoin, pas mal de dépenses. Ceux qui connaissent le bill S-29 savent que les sénateurs font vraiment beaucoup de travail.

M. Forest: Comme le Comité du divorce qui fut un comité conjoint; mais les dépenses étaient à la charge du Sénat.

M. Gundlock: Je veux me référer surtout au bill S-29 du Sénat. C'est un nouveau bill dont le Canada a grand besoin et rapidement. Les sénateurs ont vraiment beaucoup travaillé sur ce bill et il coûte cher.

M. Forest: Quel bill, monsieur Gundlock?

M. Gundlock: Le bill S-29, qui porte sur le pétrole et le gaz dans les Territoires et le Yukon.

M. Guay (Saint-Boniface): Je ne voudrais pas contredire le monsieur à ma droite qui

[*Texte*]

has just spoken, but I know that they have some very important committees.

I feel that most of these estimates are very vague. It has become almost a test of how smart MPs are at discovering a loophole through which someone can give us the appropriate answers. So far all committees are batting a very good average in giving us certain answers, but these answers are all so broad that I am not satisfied.

I hope, and I think it is the intent of the government, that the next budget will be more explanatory and in greater detail. That will make it easier to put the questions and get the appropriate answers.

If I may take another moment, Mr. Chairman, I was trying to compare the over-all cost of the Senate with that of the House of Commons to see if the cost per member of the Senate was higher, and I think I would be right on that one.

I could be wrong, but I am suggesting that that that would be right. It is not a matter of evaluating...

M. Clermont: Monsieur le président, j'en appelle au Règlement. Pouvons-nous faire une comparaison entre ces deux prévisions, puisqu'il y en a une qui a déjà été acceptée.

Le président: Il n'y a pas de quoi en appeler au Règlement, monsieur Clermont.

M. Guay (Saint-Boniface): Si M. Clermont veut attendre que j'aie fini . . .

It is not a matter of trying to evaluate. The Senate on one hand is doing one type of work against the type of work that we are doing. It was just a matter for information rather than anything else.

Je ne vise pas à faire une évaluation du travail du Sénat ni à comparer ce travail au travail fait à la Chambre des communes. Je cherche plutôt une indication, et c'est pour cela que je parlais de cette manière-là; ce n'est certainement pas pour dire que je suis contre le Sénat, bien au contraire. Je suis d'accord avec le dernier orateur que plusieurs comités au Sénat font de l'excellent travail. Je reconnais par exemple un autre comité, dont le président est le sénateur Lamontagne, et dont j'apprécie beaucoup le travail. Mais j'ai pensé expliquer mon point de vue à propos des dépenses et il est très difficile d'en discuter avec «bon sens» ou «common sense» comme on dit en anglais.

Je reconnais en même temps que M. Clermont a beaucoup d'expérience à ce Comité et que je ne serais pas en mesure de discuter avec lui parce qu'il aurait toutes les réponses

[*Interprétation*]

vient de parler, mais je sais qu'ils ont des comités très importants. Il me semble que ces prévisions sont très vagues. C'est devenu un test pour voir si les députés sont assez intelligents pour trouver l'échappatoire par laquelle quelqu'un peut nous donner les bonnes réponses. Jusqu'ici, tous les Comités ont une bonne moyenne au bâton, pour nous fournir des réponses, réponses trop vagues dont je ne suis pas satisfait.

J'espère, et je crois que c'est l'intention du gouvernement, que le prochain budget sera plus précis et plus détaillé. De sorte que nous pourrons poser des questions et recevoir des réponses. Mais ce que je voulais dire, monsieur le président, si vous me permettez encore une minute de votre temps, c'est d'essayer de comparer le coût global du Sénat par rapport à la Chambre des communes pour voir si le coût du Sénat est vraiment beaucoup plus élevé, et je crois que je ne ferai pas d'erreur ici.

Je me trompe peut-être, mais j'ai l'impression que je ne me tromperai pas. Ce n'est pas une question d'évaluer...

Mr. Clermont: Mr. Chairman, on a point of order. Can we make a comparison between these two provisions, since one has already been agreed to?

The Chairman: There is no reason for a point of order, Mr. Clermont.

Mr. Guay (St-Boniface): If Mr. Clermont would wait until I am finished...

On n'essaie pas de faire une évaluation. Le Sénat, d'une part, fait un travail qui diffère du nôtre. C'est une question d'information avant tout.

I am not trying to evaluate the work done by the Senate, nor to compare it with that done by the House of Commons. I am looking for an indication, and that is why I was speaking in this manner. I certainly do not want to say that I am against the Senate, on the contrary. I quite agree with the last speaker that there are several committees within the Senate which are doing excellent work. There is a committee, for instance, of which Senator Lamontagne is the chairman, and whose work I greatly appreciate. But I was just trying to explain my viewpoint regarding expenses and it is very difficult to discuss these.

At the same time, I recognize Mr. Clermont has a great deal of experience on this Committee and that I am in no position to argue the matter with him because he would have

[*Text*]

car je suis convaincu qu'il a fait bonne étude de la chose.

M. Clermont: Monsieur le président, vous avez dit que mon appel au Règlement n'était pas acceptable. Avec tout le respect que je vous dois moi, comme membre de la Chambre des communes, je n'aimerais pas qu'un sénateur ou des sénateurs discutent du travail de la Chambre des communes; alors, de l'autre côté, eux aussi ont le même droit. Voilà le pourquoi de mon appel au Règlement. Je croyais que le fait de discuter de l'efficacité du travail de la Chambre ou du Sénat ne relevait pas de notre juridiction.

M. Guay (Saint-Boniface): En appel au Règlement, monsieur le président, si nous ne pouvons discuter du travail de qui que ce soit, du Sénat, de la Chambre des communes ou de n'importe quel département, je crois que nous n'en viendrons jamais à améliorer la situation.

Il est nécessaire de discuter de ces choses, non pas pour évaluer si certaines gens font leur travail ou non, mais je crois qu'il est nécessaire aujourd'hui d'étudier les choses d'une manière plus approfondie si nous voulons être en mesure de bien représenter nos électeurs, et en même temps de montrer au public en général que nous faisons l'étude nécessaire pour voir si la machine gouvernementale tourne comme elle doit tourner.

M. Clermont: Monsieur le président, je crois que mon collègue m'a attribué des motifs que je n'ai pas. Je n'ai pas dit que, comme membre d'un comité, je n'ai pas le droit de demander des renseignements sur l'administration d'un ministère.

Mais le Parlement est composé de deux chambres, le Sénat et la Chambre des communes et je ne trouve pas correct que moi ou mon collègue mette en doute le travail de l'autre Chambre. Mais comme membre d'un Comité, j'ai le droit et mon collègue aussi a le droit de poser des questions sur l'opération d'un ministère.

Le président: Messieurs, nous allons considérer l'incident clos; vous avez tous les deux exprimé votre opinion bien clairement. Je vous remercie.

Mr. Mather: Mr. Chairman, on a point of personal privilege may I be excused? I have another meeting at 4.30. We have a quorum here for discussing matters, but whether I stay or go we will not have a quorum for passing votes today. May I be excused to go to my other meeting?

[*Interpretation*]

all the answers, as I am sure that he has studied this matter thoroughly.

Mr. Clermont: Mr. Chairman, you said that my point of order was not acceptable. But, with all due respect, as an MP, I would not like to see Senators discussing the work done by the members of the House of Commons, and I think they have the same right. That was the reason for my point of order. I thought that discussing on the efficiency of the work done by the Senate on the House of Commons did not come under our jurisdiction.

Mr. Guay (St-Boniface): Mr. Chairman, on a point of order. If we cannot talk about the work done by anyone, whether it be the Senate, the House of Commons, or any other department, I believe that we will never be able to improve the situation.

We have to discuss these matters, not to assess whether certain people are doing their work or not, but I think it is important, today, to study things more thoroughly if we want to be in a position to represent our electors properly and at the same time to show the public that we are carrying out the necessary studies in order to see whether the governmental machine is running as smoothly as it should.

Mr. Clermont: Mr. Chairman, I belive that my colleague has ascribed certain motives to me which I do not have. I did not say that, as a member of a Committee, I am not entitled to request information concerning the administration of some Department?

Parliament has two chambers, the House of Commons and the Senate, and I do not think it proper that I, or my colleague, should question the work done by the other place. But, as a member of a Committee, I am entitled, and so is my colleague, to ask questions concerning the operation of a Department.

The Chairman: Gentlemen, we shall consider the incident as closed. You have both expressed your points of view clearly. Thank you.

M. Mather: Monsieur le président, est-ce que l'on peut m'excuser? J'ai une autre réunion à 16h30. Nous avons le quorum pour la discussion, mais même si je reste, nous n'aurons pas le quorum pour l'adoption de ces crédits. Est-ce que je puis donc être excusé pour aller à cette autre réunion?

[*Texte*]

The Chairman: Yes, you may, if you will allow us to continue. The procedure is that we can discuss estimates when all parties are represented at the table. When you leave the NDP will no longer be represented.

Mr. Mather: I will be glad to give you that permission, Mr. Chairman. I have great confidence in the other members of this Committee.

The Chairman: All right, then; you may be excused. Thank you very much for your co-operation.

Mr. Gundlock: Before you go, Mr. Mather, would you be willing to continue and pass...

Mr. Mather: We actually cannot pass money votes. We discuss matters but we must have a bigger quorum than we now have actually to pass the votes.

Mr. Guay (St. Boniface): Perhaps we could do that. I am not a regular member of this Committee and I am sorry I am talking so much, but I believe we could pass all the votes that we want to pass today even without a quorum, so long as the Committee regularized the matter at the next meeting.

The Chairman: The procedure we have been adopting is that we discuss the estimates whenever we have present at least one representative of all the parties in the House. We cannot call for a vote unless we have 11 members present. That is the quorum of this Committee. We could not call the votes in any event, Mr. Mather.

Mr. Mather: We have gone over the estimates pretty well. If it has anything to do with me or my party's representation here I would be agreeable to supporting their passage in principle. If you come to a vote on money matters you could do that another time when you have the appropriate quorum.

The Chairman: Thank you very much, Mr. Mather. Mr. Alkenbrack?

Mr. Alkenbrack: I have just one comment, Mr. Chairman. Our colleague has been trying to make a *pro rata* comparison between the outlay that the nation makes per member in the House of Commons as compared to the outlay per member of the Senate. If you will permit me, Mr. Chairman, to go to page 293, which we are not on yet, you will notice that in Vote 20 the total outlay for the House of Commons is shown as $10 million and some

[*Interprétation*]

Le président: Oui, si vous nous permettez de poursuivre notre discussion. Selon la procédure nous pouvons poursuivre notre étude des crédits lorsque tous les partis sont représentés autour de la table. Si vous partez, le N.P.D. ne sera plus représenté.

M. Mather: Mais je vous donne la permission de le faire, monsieur le président. J'ai tout à fait confiance dans les autres députés ici présents.

Le président: Vous pouvez partir alors. Je vous remercie de votre collaboration.

M. Gundlock: Avant que vous ne partiez, Monsieur Mather, est-ce que vous pourriez continuer afin d'adopter ...

M. Mather: Nous ne pourrons pas adopter aucun crédit. Nous pouvons discuter, mais il nous faut le quorum pour adopter les crédits.

M. Guay (Saint-Boniface): Je pense que nous pourrions le faire. Je m'excuse si je parle beaucoup même si je ne suis pas un membre régulier du Comité, mais je pense que ce Comité pourrait adopter tous les crédits qu'il désire, même sans le quorum, sous réserve d'une régularisation de la situation lors de la prochaine réunion du Comité.

Le président: La procédure que nous adoptons est que nous discutons des prévisions quand nous avons au moins un représentant de chaque parti à la Chambre. Nous ne pouvons les mettre aux voix que si nous avons 11 membres, c'est-à-dire le quorum de ce Comité. Donc, M. Mather, nous ne pourrions pas mettre les crédits aux voix de toute façon.

M. Mather: Nous avons presque terminé l'étude des crédits. Je suis en cause où le fait que mon parti soit représenté, je serais d'accord pour appuyer en principe leur adoption. Si on en arrive à mettre aux voix des questions financières nous pourrions le faire une autre fois lorsque nous aurons le quorum.

Le président: Merci beaucoup, M. Mather. Monsieur Alkenbrack?

M. Alkenbrack: Un seul commentaire, monsieur le président. Notre collègue a essayé d'établir une comparaison au prorata des coûts au pays des députés et des sénateurs. Si vous me permettez, je passerai à la page 293, vous verrez, au crédit 20, que le montant total des dépenses pour la Chambre des Communes est de 10 millions et quelques dollars, et le crédit que nous étudions en ce moment est de 2 millions et quelques dollars.

[*Text*]

odd dollars, and in the vote we are dealing with the total outlay for the Senate is $2 million and some odd dollars.

In other words, 102 men and women are working and serving in the Senate at a cost of just over $2 million, whereas 264 men and

• 1630

one woman are working in the House of Commons at the cost of about $10 million so the pro rata cost of the Senate is favourable. It is not higher, in fact, it is lower than it is for the House of Commons. I have no other complaint to make, Mr. Chairman.

I have always maintained that our Senate is a very useful body to Canada, but there is only one complaint I have to make, it should be an elected Senate and not an appointed Senate. They should have to run for Office the same as for the House of Commons. I think we are getting good service from them and I think we would get even better service under those circumstances.

The Chairman: Have you any further questions, Mr. Guay?

Mr. Guay (St-Boniface): In view of what has been said, if you will allow me, I was not questioning the Senate. This was far removed from my mind when I first mentioned it. The only reason I felt that I would mention that was just to get some information that I thought was pertinent to the discussion that had taken place, but not to make an assessment of whether the Senate is doing the job it is called upon to do; I think the Senators do a tremendous job. My inquiry was just to get an idea, sincerely, of whether the cost of one Senator is roughly equal to the cost of a member of Parliament, that is all. It was as simple as that and I have no other motives, and I would like that to go on record.

The Chairman: As we are all Senators to be, I think that should complete the review of the estimates if you do not have any further questions on the actual expenses.

I wish to thank the witness, Mr. Yves Forest, for his collaboration. I hope that you got the right answers to your questions and Mr. Forest will send us the particular information he did not have this afternoon so that it will be printed as an appendix to our proceedings of this afternoon. Thank you very much, Mr. Forest.

Mr. Forest: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Even though they are not part of Votes 1 and 5, I will undertake to give you an answer to the question asked by Mr. Chairman concerning the number of retired senators and information about the services available to Sena-

[*Interpretation*]

En d'autres termes, il y a 102 hommes et femmes qui travaillent au Sénat pour un peu plus de 2 millions tandis que 264 hommes et une femme travaillent à la Chambre des communes pour 10 millions de dollars, ce qui fait que le coût au prorata du Sénat est favorable. Il n'est pas plus élevé, et même inférieur à ce qu'il est pour la Chambre des communes. Donc, je n'ai pas d'autre plainte à faire. En outre, j'ai toujours prétendu que notre Sénat est un organisme très utile pour le pays; la seule plainte que j'ai à faire, c'est qu'il faudrait, à mon avis, élire les sénateurs, et non pas les nommer. Les sénateurs devraient se présenter tout comme les députés. Ils nous rendent de bons services mais nous aurions encore un meilleur service dans d'autres circonstances.

Le président: D'autres questions, messieurs? Monsieur Guay?

M. Guay (Saint-Boniface): D'après ce qui a été dit, je ne voulais pas mettre en cause le Sénat. Ce n'est pas ce que je voulais faire en en parlant la première fois. La seule raison pour laquelle j'estimais que je devais mentionner cette question, c'était pour obtenir des renseignements concernant la discussion qui se déroule ici, non pas pour faire une évaluation du rôle du Sénat. Je pense que le Sénat peut accomplir un travail magnifique. Je voulais simplement savoir, en toute sincérité, si le coût d'un sénateur équivaut à peu près à celui d'un député? Il n'y avait aucun autre motif derrière ma question.

Le président: Comme nous serons tous peut-être sénateurs un jour, je crois que nous devrions poursuivre l'examen des crédits si nous n'avons pas d'autres questions sur les dépenses actuelles. Je tiens à remercier M. Yves Forest pour sa collaboration. J'espère qu'il a répondu à vos questions. M. Forest nous enverra les renseignements particuliers qu'il n'avait pas cet après-midi afin de les faire imprimer en appendice de nos délibérations. Merci encore une fois, monsieur Forest.

M. Forest: Même si ceci ne se rapporte pas aux crédits 1 et 5, je répondrai aux questions de M. le président, concernant le nombre de sénateurs à la retraite et des services mis à la disposition des sénateurs; je vous enverrai ces réponses par écrit.

[*Texte*]

tors as asked for by Mr. Mather. I will send you a written reply.

Mr. Guay (St. Boniface): Mr. Chairman, I hope I am not interrupting Mr. Forest, but if I may there was one more question I was going to ask today.

Just because you bought—this is on page 289—$60,000 worth of furnishings, do we have to keep this on the books from year to year at approximately the same amount? I notice now that they also have the same amount for 1970. In other words, do we have to keep on buying furnishings to the same amount year after year?

Mr. Forest: Well, I suppose this is an estimate roughly of what it costs every year. This would be the estimated cost of furniture and furnishings for Senators' offices, rooms, committee rooms, and things like that. It must be balanced roughly over what they spent the year before. I could not give you much more information than that.

Mr. Guay (St. Boniface): You have three items that are relatively broad and possibly this is very necessary, I just thought that I would ask if this was new furniture, for example, that they are acquiring under this particular item every year.

Mr. Forest: This is the cost of maintaining the Senators' offices, new desks, or new rugs, and maintaining the Senate committee rooms. I suppose it would balance out from year to

• 1635

year and they must estimate expenses provided for this year according to the amount they spent last year. They adjust it if there is a discrepancy at the end of the year.

Mr. Guay (St. Boniface): Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

The Chairman: Thank you Mr. Forest. Now, we will call the vote on the Privy Council, and we have the pleasure of having Mr. James Walker, Parliamentary Secretary to the Prime Minister, as the main witness.

You will find the estimates on page 298 and 299, and we have votes 1, 5, 10 and 15.

Mr. Walker, would you like to make an opening statement?

Mr. J. E. Walker (Parliamentary Secretary to the Prime Minister): Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. I may say that I took these estimates through last year, this is a much smaller but probably a much more select group than we had last year. We did it

[*Interprétation*]

M. Guay (Saint-Boniface): Monsieur le président, j'espère que je n'interromps pas M. Forest; il y a une autre question que je voudrais poser. Juste parce que vous avez acheté—c'est à la page 291, $60,000 d'ameublement, faut-il que je voie ce même montant reporté d'une année à l'autre? Vous disiez que c'est le même montant pour 1970; est-ce qu'il nous faut continuer à acheter d'une année à l'autre des meubles et des fournitures?

M. Forest: Je suppose que c'est un chiffre approximatif du coût annuel. C'est l'évaluation probable du coût de l'ameublement des bureaux des sénateurs, des salles de comités, etc; c'est en général équivalent à ce qui avait été dépensé l'année précédente. C'est tout ce que je peux vous dire là-dessus.

M. Guay (Saint-Boniface): Vous avez là trois crédits qui sont d'une portée assez générale, il faudrait peut-être savoir s'il s'agit de meubles neufs, qui sont achetés sous ce crédit d'année en année.

M. Forest: C'est le coût de l'entretien des bureaux des sénateurs, l'achat de tapis neufs, de bureaux neufs, ainsi que l'entretien des salles de comités, du Sénat, etc., ces dépenses se répètent d'une année à l'autre évidemment, et ils doivent prévoir les dépenses de l'année par rapport au montant dépensé l'année d'avant. S'il y a une différence à la fin de l'année, ils font le rajustement qui s'impose.

M. Guay (Saint-Boniface): Merci.

Le président: Je vous remercie, monsieur Forest, maintenant, nous allons étudier le crédit du Conseil privé. Nous avons le plaisir d'avoir ici M. James Walker, secrétaire parlementaire du premier ministre, comme principal témoin. Vous trouverez les prévisions budgétaires à la page 298 et 299, et nous avons les crédits 1, 5, 10 et 15. Monsieur Walker, voulez-vous faire une déclaration préliminaire?

M. James Walker (secrétaire parlementaire du premier ministre): Merci, monsieur le président. Je dois dire que j'ai présenté ces crédits, l'année dernière, en comité plénier de la Chambre. Cette fois-ci, c'est en petit comité en quelque sorte.

[*Text*]

in the Committee of the Whole in the House last year.

If I could express sympathy with the member from St. Boniface who had some difficulty with reading estimates, I have a terrible time, frankly, in searching. Mind you, the items are all there and the explanations are all there, but it is difficult to find just where they are and to turn to the pages where the details are. It took me a few years to discover how to use them.

If I am also allowed to make this personal remark, I want to express my great satisfaction that a Committee such as this is examining and is open to examine every detail of the estimates that we have. Personally, my own stance in this is that I believe in the most honest, open and candid questions which deserve the most honest, open and candid answers with whatever information is available to me as a witness.

May I just make this further explanation in connection with the Prime Minister's office and the Privy Council estimates. The Prime Minister is responsible for the following programs (a) Services to the Prime Minister, (b) Services to the Privy Council, (c) Royal Commissions. In addition, the Economic Council and the Science Council of Canada report to the Prime Minister.

The Privy Council Office is regarded as a department of government under the Prime Minister and is primarily concerned with the support services of the Cabinet, Cabinet committees, preparation of material for the Prime Minister, liaison with departments and agencies of the government on Cabinet returns and more recently in the area of federal-provincial relations and more recently in the area of federal-provincial relations, including review of the Constitution. In the administrative area services are provided to the Office of the Prime Minister; the cataloguing of Cabinet documents; the examination and production of Orders in Council, including Part II of the *Canada Gazette*.

It seemed to me, Mr. Chairman, that this explanation of the relationship between the Privy Council and the Prime Minister's office might be helpful.

The Chairman: It is very interesting. Mr. Clermont?

M. Clermont: Monsieur le président, à la page 299,...

Le président: Monsieur Clermont, voulez-vous s'il vous plaît attendre une seconde; M. Walker va prendre les écouteurs.

M. Clermont: Monsieur le président, à la page 299, je vois comme:

[*Interpretation*]

Je peux exprimer toute ma sympathie au député de Saint-Boniface, qui avait certaines difficultés au sujet de l'interprétation ou de la lecture des crédits, j'ai eu moi-même beaucoup de difficulté à les trouver, ainsi que toutes les explications qui s'y rapportent. Il faut savoir où les trouver ces fameuses explications et de se reporter au détail des affectations, et ceci m'a pris un certain nombre d'années avant de me familiariser avec toute cette documentation. Je tiens à exprimer ma satisfaction parce qu'un comité comme celui-ci étudie en détail tous les crédits que nous aurons, personnellement, j'accepterai les réponses les plus franches, les plus directes, et j'essaierai de fournir tous les renseignements que je possède à titre de témoin.

Je voudrais fournir une explication préliminaire, au sujet du bureau du premier ministre et du Conseil privé. Le premier ministre est responsable des programmes suivants: *a*) les services du premier ministre, b) les services du Conseil privé, c) les commissions royales, en plus, il y a le conseil économique et le conseil des sciences du Canada, qui font rapport au premier ministre; le bureau du Conseil privé est considéré comme le ministère du gouvernement, sous le premier ministre, qui s'intéresse surtout aux services de soutien du Cabinet, des comités du Cabinet, la préparation de la documentation pour le premier ministre, les liaisons avec les ministères et avec les organismes de l'État, pour les questions au Cabinet et, plus récemment, dans le domaine des relations fédérales-provinciales, y compris la revision de la Constitution. Dans le secteur administratif, on fournit des services au bureau du premier ministre; on fait le classement des documents du Cabinet; il y a aussi la seconde partie de la Gazette du Canada.

Il me semble, monsieur le président, que cette explication du rapport qui existe entre le Conseil privé et le premier ministre est importante et utile.

Le président: Très intéressant. Monsieur Clermont?

Mr. Clermont: Mr. Chairman, on page 299...

The Chairman: Mr. Clermont, would you please wait a moment. Mr. Walker will put the earphones on.

Mr. Clermont: Mr. Chairman, on page 299, I see the following:

[*Texte*]

Effectif constant ou à temps partiel pour 1968-1969: 211 personnes et pour 1969-1970: 288 personnes

soit une augmentation de 77 personnes et

Traitements et salaires 1968-1969: $1,842,500 et pour 1969-1970: $2,599,000.

Mr. Walker: Mr. Chairman, if it is in order I can answer these questions relaying the information by my chief support here, or Mr. Stewart can answer these questions directly. I know there has been a transfer of various work from other departments to the Prime Minister's office, but for the actual detail you might be interested in hearing Mr. Stewart's remarks.

The Chairman: Could you introduce Mr. Stewart then.

• 1640

Mr. Walker: This is Mr. Stewart of the Privy Council office. His official title is Director of Administration in the Privy Council Office. He is the man upon whom we rely, certainly for my general statements. He has all the details and if the Committee is agreeable he will give much clearer explanations.

The Chairman: Mr. Stewart, could you answer the question which was asked by Mr. Clermont?

Mr. H. B. Stewart (Director of Administration, Privy Council of Canada): Mr. Clermont, I will try to give you the detail that arrives at the figure of 288. There are transfers of people in, and activities in and activities out. The additional staff that appears in 1969-70 are increases in the area of the Prime Minister's office. I think he made a statement in the House regarding his activity in this area, and that accounts for 29. On the Privy Council office side, the increase in general support strength in the area of messenger service is five. There are two typists in there. We have a bit of a trick in the Estimates here. In the previous year, we were directed by the Treasury Board not to include in our Manpower totals the exempt staff that is assigned to the offices of the Ministers without Portfolio. In these Estimates they are included in Manpower, and they account for 42 of that group.

I might add that in the area of estimates there was a division of the activities of the Science Council, and the Science Secretariat. The Council is now a separate body. Out of

[*Interprétation*]

"Continuing Employment and/or Part-time, Seasonal and Casuals", for 1968-69: 211 persons; and for 1969-70: 288 persons.

which is an increase of 77 persons, and I also read:

Salaries and Wages, 1968-69: $1,842,500; and for 1969-70: $2,599,000.

M. Walker: Monsieur le président, je pourrais répondre à ces questions et fournir des renseignements, mais si vous voulez, M. Stewart pourra répondre directement à ces questions. Il est en rapport avec les autres bureaux qui travaillent avec le premier ministre et il a les détails, peut-être pourrons-nous demander à M. Stewart de nous fournir ces renseignements-là.

Le président: Monsieur Stewart?

M. Walker: Monsieur Stewart fait partie du Conseil privé et son titre officiel est: directeur de l'Administration au Bureau du Conseil privé, c'est lui qui a tous les renseignements et, si le Comité y consent, je pense que M. Stewart pourra nous fournir des renseignements plus circonstanciés.

Le président: Monsieur Stewart, pouvez-vous répondre à cette question dès maintenant, la question de M. Clermont?

M. Stewart (Directeur de l'Administration, Conseil privé): Monsieur le président, monsieur Clermont, je vais essayer de vous donner des renseignements relatifs à la page 288. Il y a des mutations de personnes à l'intérieur et à l'extérieur des services. Il y a un personnel supplémentaire, engagé en 1969-70, qui représente une augmentation des effectifs pour le bureau du premier ministre. Je pense qu'il a fait cette déclaration à la Chambre au sujet de l'activité dans ce secteur, et ceci compte pour 29 employé; au bureau du Conseil privé, l'augmentation du personnel de soutien dans le secteur des messagers, par exemple, est de 5 employés et cela comprend deux dactylographes. Il y a là évidemment un cas compliqué. Les années précédentes, le Conseil du Trésor nous demandait de ne pas indiquer dans le total de notre personnel, les employés qui étaient rattachés au personnel d'un Ministre d'État. Dans les présentes estimations, ce personnel est inclus, il y a donc 42 personnes de ce groupe qui comptent dans l'effectif.

J'aimerais ajouter qu'en ce qui concerne les Prévisions budgétaires, qu'il y a une division de l'activité entre le Conseil des sciences et le Secrétariat des sciences. Maintenant le Con-

[*Text*]

the Estimates, there were 22 positions transferred to the Science Council. Does that clear it for you, sir?

M. Clermont: Monsieur le président, je crois que, durant cette session, la Chambre des Communes a accordé des allocations à l'Opposition officielle, et aux autres partis d'opposition. Les montants additionnels que la Chambre des Communes a accordés apparaissent-ils dans les crédits du Conseil Privé ou relèvent-ils de la responsabilité d'un autre service?

Mr. Walker: Mr. Chairman, I think that those allowances are an expense of the House of Commons. I suggest that you may find them in the Speaker's estimates.

Mr. Clermont: That is fine. Thank you, Mr. Walker.

A la même page 299, je vois sous «services professionnels et spéciaux», pour 68-69, $932,-300, et pour 69-70, une réduction très appréciable, soit jusqu'à 440,000 dollars. C'est une réduction de $542,000.

Le président: Très bonne question, M. Stewart peut-il répondre?

Mr. Stewart: Regarding that item of Professional and Special Services, last year in the $982,300 figure there was $500,000 for the second year of the task force on labour relations. Mr. Walker, the task force report has been tabled in the House, so that activity is not an ongoing activity in the 1969-70 year.

I could give you a breakdown, if you wish, of the $440,000, sir.

Mr. Clermont: No, no, that is all right.

Mr. Stewart: It is attributable only to the completion of the task force on labour relations.

Mr. Walker: I think, Mr. Chairman, that Mr. Clermont is very happy to see a reduction of $500,000.

Mr. Clermont: Yes, Mr. Walker.

Je remarque aussi des prévisions budgétaires pour certaines Commissions royales d'enquête, entre autres celle sur le Pilotage, qui nécessitera, pour 1969-70, une somme de 227,-000 dollars. Je crois que cette enquête dure depuis 1966-67, ai-je raison?

The Chairman: Mr. Walker, are you going to answer?

[*Interpretation*]

seil est un organisme spécial. Il y a eu donc un transfert de 22 emplois au Conseil des sciences. Cela vous éclaire-t-il, monsieur?

Mr. Clermont: Mr. Chairman, I think that during this session, the House of Commons has granted allowances to the official Opposition and to the other opposition parties. Are the additional amounts granted by the House of Commons given in the votes of the Privy Council, or do they come under the responsibility of another service?

M. Walker: Je pense, monsieur le président, que ces allocations sont des déboursés de la Chambre des communes. Je pense que vous trouverez ces réponses dans les crédits de l'Orateur de la Chambre des communes.

M. Clermont: C'est très bien, je vous remercie monsieur Walker.

On the same page 299, I see under "Professional and Special Services", for 1968-69, $982,300, and for 1969-70, there is an appreciable decrease, with an amount of $440,000. This is a decrease of $542,000.

The Chairman: Very good question. Could Mr. Stewart answer this question?

M. Stewart: A ce crédit des services professionnels et spéciaux, l'année dernière, sur le montant de $982,300, il y avait $500,000 à peu près pour la deuxième année de fonction du groupe spécial d'étude sur les relations de travail. Ce dernier a fait son rapport à la Chambre et cette activité est donc terminée en 1969-1970. Et je peux vous donner un détail de ces dépenses de $440,000, si vous le désirez.

M. Clermont: Non, ça va.

M. Stewart: Cette diminution est uniquement due à la fin des travaux du groupe d'étude spécial sur les relations de travail.

M. Walker: Je pense que M. Clermont est heureux de constater qu'il y a une diminution de $500,000.

M. Clermont: Oui, monsieur Walker.

I also see that we have appropriations for certain Royal Commissions, among others the Royal Commission on Pilotage which will need for 1969-70, the sum of $227,000. I believe that this inquiry has been going on since 1966-67. Am I right?

Le président: M. Walker, allez-vous répondre?

[*Texte*]

• 1645

Mr. Walker: Yes, Mr. Chairman. I have a note on this Mr. Clermont, and I wonder if I may make this opening statement on royal commissions. This is just a personal view, but it relates, however, to the former witnesses when they were discussing the Senate Estimates. I have some feeling that we should look very closely into the advisability of using—this has nothing to do with these Estimates—our Senate much more to carry out the type of studies for which we now appoint royal commissions. There are some studies that might be better under a royal commission. I do not know what the Committee wishes to do about this, but it is my personal view that we could possibly use other people when appointing royal commissions.

There is one problem with royal commissions. Generally, they are a body unto themselves, and are appointed with no set conditions of reporting. This could be done, but then you have difficulty getting personnel to man a commission under the restriction of time as to when they bring their reports in. Once they are appointed, it is rather an uncontrolled operation. The pilotage note:

> The Commission presented Vol. 1 in July 1968. This dealt with the problems generally related to pilotage for the whole of Canada and contained the Commission's major recommendations.
>
> Volume 2 covering operations on the West Coast of Canada was made public on December 20, 1968.
>
> Three more volumes are to be published by the Commission during the current fiscal year. These will be Vol. 3 to be ready by mid-July.

Not by order of the government, but by their own forecast...

> relating to pilotage in the Maritime Provinces including Newfoundland. Volume 4 for the St. Lawrence River area is expected to be completed by the end of the calendar year. The final publication, Volume 5, which treats with pilotage in the Great Lakes is expected to be published in March 1970. The Commission anticipates that this will see the end of its activities.

In answer to your question, the $227,000 in the Estimates appears to be taking care of these volumes that are yet to be published,

[*Interprétation*]

M. Walker: Oui, monsieur le président. J'ai une note à ce sujet, monsieur Clermont. Je me demande si je pourrais peut-être faire une déclaration au sujet des commissions royales d'enquête. Ce sont des opinions personnelles et elles se rattachent aux déclarations des témoins précédents quand nous avons discuté des crédits du Sénat. Ceci n'a rien à voir avec ces crédits. Il me semble qu'il nous faudrait étudier plus à fond les possibilités pour faire étudier par le Sénat, le genre de problèmes pour lesquels nous nommons actuellement les commissions royales. Il y a des études qui seraient mieux faites par des commissions royales. Je ne sais pas ce que le Comité désire faire mais je pense personnellement que l'on peut employer d'autres personnes lorsqu'on nomme des commissions royales.

Il y a un problème avec les commissions royales. Habituellement elles sont nommées, on ne précise pas les conditions dans lesquelles elles doivent faire rapport. C'est très difficile d'obtenir le personnel administratif pour ces commissions royales, étant donné les délais qu'elles ont pour présenter leurs rapports. Une fois que vous avez nommé une commission royale, on ne peut plus contrôler ses opérations.

> Le Commission d'enquête sur le pilotage, par exemple, a présenté un rapport en juillet 1968 pour traiter du problème du pilotage dans l'ensemble du Canada et ce rapport comprenait les recommandations principales de la commission.
>
> Le Volume 2 couvrait les opérations sur la côte ouest du Canada, et a été rendu public le 20 décembre 1968.
>
> Les trois prochains volumes doivent être publiés par la Commission au cours de l'année financière actuelle. Le volume 3 sera prêt pour juillet.

Non pas sur l'ordre du gouvernement, mais d'après les propres prévisions de la Commission ...

> en ce qui concerne les problèmes dans les Maritimes et à Terre-Neuve. Le Volume 4 traite du pilotage sur le Saint-Laurent, et devrait être terminé pour la fin de l'année civile. Enfin la dernière publication, le Volume 5, qui traite du pilotage dans les Grands lacs, doit être publié en mars 1970. Et la commission s'attend que cette publication marque la fin de son activité.

Donc, en réponse à votre question, ces $227,000 dollars sont destinés à la publication de ces trois volumes à venir. Nous espérons donc

[*Text*]

and except for a few small tag ends, we assume that this will be the end of the large expenditures.

M. Clermont: Monsieur le président, ma dernière question. Je vois que les prévisions budgétaires pour les dépenses des commissions royales d'enquête, couvrent quatre commissions d'enquête pour un total de $2,062,300. M. Walker vient de nous apprendre que les activités de la Commission royale d'enquête sur le pilotage devraient se terminer cette année. Peut-il nous donner les mêmes renseignements pour les trois autres commissions d'enquête?

Mr. Walker: Mr. Chairman, I have a very long note on the bilingualism and biculturalism commission. I will give you a condensed form of some rather detailed progress reports which would wrap it up:

> In summary the draft texts are completed or well advanced in all subject areas. Nevertheless . . .

Because there are six areas that they are covering . . .

> . . . it should be emphasized that preparation of final drafts in both languages and final auditing are very time-consuming and complex processes. As well, final consideration and approval of both language versions of each Book by the Commissions in full Commission meetings—which is the necessary final step before transmittal of the reports to the Government—also can require considerable time for discussion and decision. Still, the Commission hopes to complete deliberation and approval of all subject Books this year. Preparation for printing and production may require more time.

I think, Mr. Chairman, that this gives a general view. Again we are looking forward to the final . . .

Mr. Clermont: I am satisfied, Mr. Walker, with the information which you have given me.

Il y a une autre commission royale d'enquête que la classe agricole attend avec impatience, c'est celle sur les machines agricoles. Pouvons-nous nous attendre qu'en 1969 cette commission aura terminée ses travaux?

Mr. Walker: Yes, and when I mention the word year, I am talking about the fiscal year.

Mr. Clermont: Yes, I know.

[*Interpretation*]

que ce sera là, la fin de ces importantes dépenses.

Mr. Clermont: My last question, Mr. Chairman. I see that the estimates for Royal Commissions cover four Royal Commissions for a total of $2,062,300. Mr. Walker has just told us that as far as the Royal Commission on Pilotage is concerned, its activities should end this year. Could he give us the same information concerning the three other Royal Commissions?

M. Walker: Monsieur le président, j'ai une très longue remarque à faire sur la Commission sur le bilinguisme et le biculturalisme, et je voudrais vous donner un condensé de cette remarque:

> En bref, les textes préliminaires sont terminés ou presque dans tous les secteurs d'activités. Toutefois . . .

étant donné qu'il y a six secteurs différents couverts . . .

> on doit signaler que la préparation des projets définitifs dans les deux langues et la publication prennent beaucoup de temps et que c'est un travail très compliqué. Ensuite, l'étude définitive et l'approbation des versions dans les deux langues par les commissaires à la suite de réunions de tous les membres de la commission, ceci étant les dernières étapes à passer par la commission avant la remise du rapport au gouvernement, ces travaux exigent un temps considérable de discussion au niveau de la commission royale. Ensuite, tous les sujets doivent être publiés. Par exemple, cette année, la publication, la préparation et l'impression exigeront peut-être plus de temps.

Monsieur le président, je crois que cela donne une vue d'ensemble des travaux. Encore une fois, nous attendons le rapport final . . .

M. Clermont: Très bien, monsieur Walker, ces renseignements que vous venez de me donner sont tout à fait satisfaisants.

There is another Royal Commission which is eagerly awaited by the farmers, i.e. the Royal Commission on Farm Machinery. Can we expect this Commission to finish its work in 1969?

M. Walker: Quand je mentionnais le mot «année», je parlais de l'année financière.

M. Clermont: Oui je sais.

[*Texte*]

Mr. Walker: Considering the Royal Commission on Farm Machinery:

• 1650

> The Commissioner has advised that the report should be completed prior to the end of September of this year. In any event he has assured us that the report in both languages will be available for distribution before the end of the calendar year. He also indicated that the Commission would be publishing from 10 to 15 studies and that work on these, in all likelihood, would be finished, during the current fiscal year. The budget for 1969-70 fiscal year is $454,700.

So again we are looking to the winding-up operation. The operative dates you were asking for Mr. Clermont, are the end of September and, for the various studies they are making, the end of the current fiscal year.

M. Clermont: Qu'en est-il de la Commission royale d'enquête sur le statut de la femme, monsieur le président?

Mr. Walker: That is a very positive report and, if I am allowed, I want to particularly congratulate this Commission, which is completely on target in their projected dates for reporting. The Commission will be undertaking its third and last year of operations in the 1969-70 fiscal year. In the fiscal year which begins on April 1, 1969, the Commission will concentrate its efforts on the final stage of the report, the preparation and printing of the final report and those studies which the Commissioners decide should be published. The operations are expected to be completed by the end of 1969.

M. Clermont: Merci beaucoup. Merci, monsieur le président. J'ai terminé ma série de questions.

The Chairman: Mr. Alkenbrack.

Mr. Alkenbrack: My questions are very few, Mr. Chairman.

Are you dealing with all the votes at once, Votes 1, 5, 10 and 15?

The Chairman: Yes.

Mr. Alkenbrack: Then it is in order to ask questions?

The Chairman: Yes, on whichever vote you want to ask your questions, Vote 1, 5, 10 or 15.

Mr. Alkenbrack: First, the Prime Minister's salary and motor car allowance. The motor car allowance appears to be very low.

[*Interprétation*]

M. Walker: La Commission royale d'enquête sur la machinerie agricole dit:

> Que leur rapport devrait être terminé avant la fin de septembre de cette année. En tout cas nous avons l'assurance que le rapport dans les deux langues sera disponible pour distribution avant la fin de l'année civile. La Commission a également dit qu'elle publierait de dix à quinze études, et tout ceci sera terminé au cours de l'année financière actuelle. Pour l'année financière 1969-1970, le budget est de 454,000 dollars.

Nous attendons donc l'étape finale. Les dates que vous me demandez, monsieur Clermont, sont d'abord, la fin de septembre, puis, pour la recherche, la fin de l'année financière.

Mr. Clermont: What is the situation regarding the Royal Commission on the Status of Women in Canada, Mr. Chairman?

M. Walker: Je tiens à féliciter la Commission, qui a présenté un rapport très positif et qui a su respecter l'échéance. L'année 1969-1970 sera la dernière année de fonctionnement de cette Commission. Au cours de l'année financière qui a commencé le 1er avril 1969, la Commission va concentrer ses efforts sur la dernière étape du rapport sur la préparation et l'impression du rapport final, et sur les études que les commissaires ont décidé de faire publier. Le tout doit être terminé pour la fin de 1969.

Mr. Clermont: Thank you very much.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I am through with my questions.

Le président: Monsieur Alkenbrack.

M. Alkenbrack: J'ai très peu de questions, monsieur le président. Est-ce qu'on étudie simultanément tous les crédits, 1, 5, 10 et 15?

Le président: Oui, c'est cela.

M. Alkenbrack: Peut-on poser des questions?

Le président: Oui, sur l'un des crédits 1, 5, 10 et 15, comme vous voudrez.

M. Alkenbrack: D'abord, je poserai une question au sujet du traitement et de l'indemnité d'automobile du premier ministre. Il me semble que cette dernière somme soit petite.

[*Text*]

The Chairman: Is that on page 298, Mr. Alkenbrack?

Mr. Alkenbrack: Yes, Vote No. 1. It looks rather low for the Prime Minister's car. The depreciation in one year, Mr. Chairman, for the kind of car that he is expected to drive would be much more than $2,000. We discussed these points this afternoon when we referred to the fact that the salaries of the Lieutenant-Governors of the provinces are much less than the amount they have to lay out. I think that applies to the Prime Minister as well, regardless of who is the Prime Minister and regardless of his personal circumstances. That is a very insufficient car allowance for the Prime Minister of Canada. I am sure the hon. members will see my point.

The Chairman: Would you like to comment, Mr. Walker?

Mr. Walker: I agree Mr. Chairman. In a lighter vein, possibly this is the Prime Minister's contribution to the fight against inflation. You must remember that he has a low car of his own.

Mr. Alkenbrack: I think I made my point. The depreciation in one year on a good car is in excess of that, to say nothing of the operating expenses. I previously brought up the point in this Committee about our travel allowances, which are far too low. I find it very difficult to maintain my car on what we are expected to do it for.

The Chairman: In connection with that matter, Mr. Alkenbrack, we made a recommendation regarding those expenses for the members in our second report.

Mr. Alkenbrack: I think we could make a similar recommendation with respect to the Prime Minister's cars and also the cars of members of the Cabinet. I notice their allowance is comparatively low.

Secondly, we go to Vote 15.

The Chairman: Is it agreed this recommendation should be included in our report?

M. Clermont: Monsieur le président, ne serait-il pas plus pratique d'attendre d'être plus nombreux avant de faire une recommandation?

Le président: Oui. Nous allons en prendre note, et à la prochaine assemblée nous pourrons en discuter.

[*Interpretation*]

Le président: C'est à la page 298, monsieur Alkenbrack?

M. Alkenbrack: Oui, au crédit 1. Cette indemnité semble basse pour la voiture du premier ministre. Par exemple, la dépréciation, pendant une année, pour une voiture telle que celle que le premier ministre utilise, doit être beaucoup plus élevée que $2,000. Nous avons discuté ce point ici cet après-midi quand nous avons parlé du traitement des Lieutenants-gouverneurs, qui ne suffisent pas à leurs dépenses. Je crois qu'on pourrait dire cela du premier ministre aussi, quelles que soient ses conditions de vie particulières. C'est une indemnité d'automobile tout à fait insuffisante pour un premier ministre du Canada. Je crois que les députés comprendront cela.

Le président: Monsieur Walker, avez-vous des commentaires?

M. Walker: Monsieur le président, je suis d'accord. C'est peut-être la contribution du premier ministre à la lutte contre l'inflation. N'oublions pas qu'il a sa propre petite voiture.

M. Alkenbrack: Je pense qu'on m'a compris. La dépréciation pour une année, d'une voiture, est de plus que $2,000, sans parler des dépenses de fonctionnement de l'automobile. J'ai déjà parlé de cela à ce Comité au sujet de nos propres frais de déplacement, qui sont insuffisants. Je ne réussis pas à maintenir ma propre voiture avec ces indemnités.

Le président: En ce qui concerne ce problème, monsieur Alkenbrack, nous avons fait des recommandations dans notre deuxième rapport.

M. Alkenbrack: Je pense que nous pouvons faire des recommandations semblables au sujet de la voiture du premier ministre et aussi des membres du Cabinet. Je pense que ces allocations sont trop basses.

Maintenant, je parlerai du crédit 15.

Le président: Sommes-nous d'accord que cette recommandation soit inscrite dans notre rapport?

Mr. Clermont: Mr. Chairman, would it not be more practical if we waited until there are more members here, before making a recommendation?

The Chairman: Yes. We will take note of this, and we can discuss it at the next meeting.

[*Texte*]

• 1655

Mr. Alkenbrack: Mr. Chairman, I agree with that. It is up to a majority of the Committee as to the recommendations it makes. I am just bringing the point up and I think it will be noted later.

The Chairman: It is a good point and it is noted, and when we have a quorum we will discuss it further.

Mr. Alkenbrack: Secondly, regarding the Royal Commission on Bilingualism and Biculturalism, according to the record I note on page 300 that $4,323,835 has already been laid out for the operation of this Commission, or this amount will have been laid out when we pass this $755,000.

If you add $1,600,982 for 1966-67, then $1,-049,853 for 1967-68, the 1968-69 estimate, which is $918,000, all of which I take it has not yet been spent because the corresponding figure for the same year in the right-hand column is $668,000, and then if you add the $775,000 we are expected to pass this year it will total $4,323,835. When is this going to come to an end? This is a pretty expensive commission. Could Mr. Stewart advise us when they will be finished with their duties and when they will wind up their affairs so that we will no longer be spending money on this commission?

The Chairman: Either Mr. Stewart or Mr. Walker will answer.

Mr. Walker: Mr. Chairman, may I give you what I have and perhaps this will satisfy Mr. Alkenbrack. I think a few minutes ago I outlined some of the difficulties and pitfalls in establishing royal commissions. The Royal Commission on Pilotage, and I do not criticize it, has taken many years. May I say further to the question that Mr. Clermont asked about this particular commission that the Commission is also well advanced in the preparation of selected research studies for publication. The first two of these are in the final stages of production at the printing bureau and a further four are well advanced in the editing and proofreading process. The Commission had not fully anticipated the length of time required for production by the printing bureau after completion of the Commission's editorial work on the studies. It is now expected that publication of research studies will proceed more steadily through the next month.

Regarding those research studies not selected for publication, it is the policy of the Commission to make those studies which have

[*Interprétation*]

M. Alkenbrack: Je suis d'accord, monsieur le président. C'est à la majorité des membres du Comité de décider quelles recommandations seront faites. Je le mentionne, on y repensera plus tard.

Le président: Quand nous aurons le quorum, nous pourrons trancher la question, qui est très à propos.

M. Alkenbrack: Deuxièmement, en ce qui concerne la Commission royale sur le bilinguisme et le biculturalisme, dont les crédits figurent à la page 300 du dossier, je remarque que cette commission nous a déjà coûté $4,-323,835, ou du moins que ce montant aura été dépensé quand nous aurons accordé ce $755,000.

Si on additionne le $1,600,982 pour l'année financière 1966-67, puis $1,049,853 pour 1967-1968, puis la somme de $918,000, qui, si je vois bien, n'a pas encore été dépensée, parce que le chiffre correspondant à la colonne de droite est de $668,000, et enfin si on ajoute à tout cela le $755,000, cela fera $4,323,835. A quand la fin? Cette commission est affreusement coûteuse. Est-ce que M. Stewart peut nous dire quand on arrivera à la fin et qu'on ne dépensera plus d'argent pour cette Commission royale?

Le président: M. Stewart, ou M. Walker pourraient répondre.

M. Walker: Je vous donnerai ce que j'ai. M. Alkenbrack sera peut-être satisfait. Je crois que j'ai mentionné quelques-unes des difficultés concernant les commission royales. La Commission royale d'enquête sur le pilotage a mis des années à terminer son travail; je ne la critique pas.

Maintenant, concernant cette Commission en particulier, la Commission est bien avancée dans la préparation des études à publier. Deux études sont à l'étape de l'imprimerie, et quatre autres ont presque franchi l'étape de révision. La Commission ne s'attendait pas qu'on mettrait tant de temps à l'impression.

On pense que les études iront de l'avant au cours du mois prochain. Quand aux études qui ne sont pas destinées à être publiées, la

[*Text*]

been utilized generally available in a volume or book of the report which has been presented to the government, some 45 studies emanating from the Commission's hearings. These 45 studies which were used in preparing Volumes I and II of the Commission's reports are now available and already they are being widely used by other researchers and policy makers. A further 35 studies will be made available when Volume III is published and another 15 at the time of publication of Volume IV, thus by next autumn much of the Commission's research will be available as a resource for continuing work in the fields that are covered. The hearings have been concluded, Mr. Alkenbrack. They are now doing the last assembling of the various reports and the publication of the studies that were made for general use.

They inform us—and I believe Mr. Stewart can correct me if I am wrong—that generally they are on the target they set for themselves in the preparation of this work. If there are any specific details you want, Mr. Stewart could provide them.

• 1700

Mr. Stewart: Mr. Alkenbrack, may I intervene for a moment. I wanted to make it clear for the record that the figures shown in the Blue Book which you added up, and which total $4 million odd, do not reflect the total expenditure on this Commission.

The Commission was appointed on July 19, 1963, and in reply to a question by Mr. Coates in the House on February 17, 1969, Mr. Walker filed an answer which appears in *Hansard*, so if you include the 1969-70 estimates the figure will now be $8,635,235. I just thought that the record should be clear on that.

Mr. Alkenbrack: Yes, that is right, the record should be clear. Why is the record not clear in these estimates? They do set out—of course, it is only an informational figure—on page 300 the expenditures for the previous three years. Are those only the expenditures that were being asked for in the corresponding vote of other years and not all of the...

Mr. Walker: Mr. Alkenbrack, if we go back to the estimates at the beginning, I presume in the year 1963 you will find, I suggest, estimates for those first years of the Commission.

Mr. Stewart: I have the figures here, if you are interested. In 1963-64 they spent $267,107 and lapsed $8,743. Could I just check a point with one of my officials?

[*Interpretation*]

politique de cette commission est de rendre accessibles les études employées dans un volume du rapport présenté au gouvernement, soit à peu près 45 études provenant des séances de la Commission. Ces 45 études, qui ont servi à la préparation des tomes I et II du rapport de la Commission, sont actuellement disponibles et ont beaucoup servi à d'autres chercheurs et directeurs de politiques. De plus, 35 études seront publiées quand le tome III sera publié, puis 15 autres lors de la publication du tome IV. A la fin de l'automne prochain, toute la recherche de la Commission sera mise à la disposition des autres chercheurs dans d'autres domaines. Les séances de la Commission sont terminées, monsieur Alkenbrack.

On est actuellement à colliger les derniers rapports pour usage général. Monsieur Stewart pourra me corriger si je me trompe, mais on nous dit que somme toute les délais ont été respectés. Si vous désirez des précisions, M. Stewart pourra vous les fournir.

M. Stewart: Monsieur Alkenbrack, puis-je interrompre un moment. Je veux simplement préciser, pour le compte-rendu, que ces chiffres que vous avez additionnés et qui figurent dans le Livre bleu, soit ce total de plus de quatre millions, ne traduisent pas les dépenses globales de cette commission.

La Commission a pris naissance le 19 juillet 1963, et en réponse à une question posée par M. Coates en Chambre le 17 février 1969, M. Walker a versé au dossier une réponse qui a paru dans le Hansard. Si les prévisions pour 1969-1970 sont ajoutées, le total sera plutôt de $8,635,235. Je voulais simplement préciser cela, pour le compte-rendu. Merci.

M. Alkenbrack: C'est juste, le dossier devrait être clair. Pourquoi le dossier n'est-il pas clair sur ces prévisions? On ne donne pas—naturellement c'est seulement un chiffre de renseignement—à la page 300, les dépenses pour les 3 années précédentes. Est-ce là les seules dépenses qu'on demandait lors du vote des autres années et non pas tout le...

M. Walker: Monsieur Alkenbrack, si nous nous reportons aux prévisions du début, de 1963 je crois, vous trouverez, à mon avis, les prévisions de ces premières années de la Commission.

M. Stewart: J'ai ici des chiffres, si cela vous intéresse. En 1963-1964, ils ont dépensé $267,107 et $8,743 on été annulés. Pourrais-je seulement vérifier un point avec un de mes hauts fonctionnaires.

[*Texte*]

Mr. Alkenbrack: The lapsed figure is the unspent figure?

Mr. Stewart: In that particular year, sir, yes.

Mr. Alkenbrack: Voted but not used.

Mr. Stewart: That is right. In 1964-65, they spent $1.75 million, they lapsed $221,000—I am just rounding the figures, sir—in 1965-66, they spent $2.298 million and lapsed $186,236; in 1966-67, they spent $1.006 million and then you have it in the book.

Mr. Alkenbrack: Thank you.

Mr. Guay (St. Boniface): Mr. Chairman, I have a supplementary to that. Will all the members of the House get copies of the B & B Commission's report?

Mr. Walker: Yes, we have all had the first two. Whatever has been published has been distributed to all members.

Mr. Guay (St. Boniface): I am just wondering if I got them, I do not recall getting them.

Mr. Gundlock: You had better look.

Mr. Walker: Mr. Chairman, they are available in the Distribution Office.

Mr. Guay (St. Boniface): Volume No. 2 is out now you say?

Mr. Walker: Yes, what did I say? Three volumes have been published to date.

Mr. Guay (St. Boniface): Thank you.

Mr. Walker: If you have difficulty getting them, Mr. Guay, just let me know.

The Chairman: Are there any further questions?

Mr. Alkenbrack: Just to finish up my questioning, Mr. Chairman, I agree with the point made this afternoon that other already constituted bodies connected with government could perform these duties. I think it would be a good idea if we recommended that the words "Royal Commission" be terminated too, and there be a duly constituted commission—if you still wanted to call it a commission—to inquire into the affairs of our country and the affairs of our people.

This could be done by the Senate, or it could even be done by members of the Commons, if you could find members who had time enough to do it. The cost of the man-hours in that way could be absorbed by salar-

[*Interprétation*]

M. Alkenbrack: Le montant annulé est la somme qui n'a pas été dépensée?

M. Stewart: Oui, pour cette année-là en particulier.

M. Alkenbrack: Des crédits votés mais non utilisés.

M. Stewart: C'est juste. En 1964-1965 on a dépensé $1.75 million et annulé $221,000. Ici, j'arrondis les chiffres. En 1965-1966, on a dépensé $1,006 millions et, pour la suite, vous le trouvez dans le livre.

M. Alkenbrack: Merci.

M. Guay (St-Boniface): Monsieur le président, je désirerais poser une question supplémentaire. Est-ce que les députés recevront des exemplaires du rapport B-B.

M. Walker: Oui, nous avons tous reçus les deux premiers tomes. Tout ce qui a été publié a été distribué aux députés.

M. Guay (St-Boniface): Je me demande si je les ai reçus. Je ne me rappelle pas les avoir reçus.

M. Gundlock: Vous devriez vérifier.

M. Walker: Monsieur le président, on peut se les procurer au Bureau de distribution.

M. Guay (St-Boniface): Vous dites que le Tome 2 est publié?

M. Walker: Oui. Qu'ai-je dit? Trois volumes ont été publiés jusqu'à maintenant.

M. Guay (St-Boniface): Merci.

M. Walker: S'il y avait des difficultés a vous les procurer, monsieur Guay, dites-le moi.

Le président: D'autres questions?

M. Alkenbrack: Pour terminer mes questions, je suis d'accord avec ce qui s'est dit ici cet après-midi. D'autres organismes déjà constitués, reliés au gouvernement pourraient accomplir ces fonctions? Ce serait une bonne chose, je crois, si on recommandait que les mots «commission royale» soient supprimés et qu'il y ait une commission dûment constituée—si on veut encore l'appeler une commission—pour surveiller les affaires du pays et de la population.

Cela pourrait être fait par le Sénat ou même par les députés, si vous pouvez trouver des députés qui ont suffisamment de temps pour le faire. Et le coût en heures-homme pourrait être absorbé par les salaires que l'on

[*Text*]

ies already paid and if not, by nominal expenses. I think the government could save money there. Again, were it applied to the Senate it could certainly make use of the brain power that we have in the Senate.

Mr. Walker: Could I just clarify one point on this, Mr. Chairman? I did not suggest that all Royal Commissions might be replaced. I said there were some of these areas that might well be done in line with your suggestion.

Mr. Alkenbrack: Mr. Chairman, I know that Mr. Walker did not say that all Royal Commissions should be replaced, but I really think that they could be replaced by a Commons commission or a Senate commission.

• 1705

Mr. Guay (St. Boniface): May I make an observation?

The Chairman: Mr. Clermont?

M. Clermont: Voici, monsieur le président, le commentaire que je voulais faire: M. Walker l'a anticipé en partie. Il y a peut-être certaines commissions royales, dont le travail aurait pu être effectué soit par le Sénat ou la Chambre des communes, mais j'ai des doutes quant à certaines autres dont la Commission Laurendeau-Dunton sur le bilinguisme. Et, j'admets avec mon collègue, qui m'a précédé, que la somme de $8 millions est énorme! Mais, je me demande si ce n'est pas un prix raisonnable à payer si, à la suite des recommandations de cette Commission, il y a une meilleure compréhension parmi tous les Canadiens.

Mr. Walker: I agree with that.

M. Guay (St-Boniface): Mes commentaires sont dans le même ordre d'idées que ceux que vient de formuler M. Clermont. Je vous remercie, monsieur le président.

The Chairman: Are there any further questions of the witnesses? If there are no further questions all the Votes which were scheduled for today have been dealt with. This Committee stands adjourned until the next meeting.

Thank you very much, Mr. Walker.

Mr. Walker: Thank you Mr. Chairman and gentlemen.

[*Interpretation*]

paie déjà, sinon, par les frais généraux. Je crois que le gouvernement pourrait faire des économies comme ça. Encore une fois, en ce qui concerne le Sénat, on pourrait se servir de toute la matière grise que nous avons là.

M. Walker: Là dessus, monsieur le président, pourrais-je clarifier un point. Je n'ai pas proposé que toutes les commissions royales soient remplacées. Je crois qu'il y a certaines choses qui pourraient être faites en accord avec votre proposition.

M. Alkenbrack: Monsieur le président, je sais que M. Walker n'a pas dit que «toutes» les commissions royales devraient être remplacées, mais je pense qu'en vérité elles pourraient l'être par une commission de la Chambre ou une commission du Sénat.

M. Guay (St-Boniface): Puis-je faire une remarque?

Le président: Monsieur Clermont.

Mr. Clermont: Mr. Chairman, I wanted to mention that Mr. Walker partly anticipated what I wanted to say. There may be some Royal Commissions whose work could have been carried out either by the Senate or the House of Commons, but I have my doubts regarding certain other ones, including the Royal Commission on Bilingualism and Biculturalism. And I agree with my colleague who just spoke before me, that $8 million is quite an enormous amount. But I wonder whether this is not a reasonable price to pay if, following the recommendations by this Commission, there will be better understanding between all Canadians.

M. Walker: Je suis d'accord avec ça.

Mr. Guay (St-Boniface): My comments are similar to those Mr. Clermont has just made. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Le président: Y a-t-il d'autres questions aux témoins? Plus de questions? Tous les crédits prévus pour aujourd'hui ont été discutés. Nous pouvons donc ajourner le Comtié jusqu'à la prochaine réunion. Merci beaucoup, monsieur Walker.

M. Walker: Merci monsieur le président, merci messieurs.

APPENDIX "A"

CANADA

Parliamentary Secretary

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE PRIVY COUNCIL

Ottawa, May 22, 1969.

Mr. D. Lévesque, Clerk,
Standing Committee on Miscellaneous Estimates,
House of Commons,
Ottawa.

Dear Mr. Lévesque,

Following my appearance before your Committee when the estimates of the Senate were being studied, I had undertaken, in response to a question of Mr. Barry Mather, M.P., to get information concerning the travel allowances paid to Senators compared to those allowed to the House of Commons.

I am informed as follows:

(1) for each session of Parliament there be paid to members of the Senate actual moving or transportation and travelling expenses between their places of residence and Ottawa as may be required for the performance of their duties as members of the Senate, if such expenses do not exceed the cost of air transportation economy fares (plus ground transportation between the airline pick-up point and the airport);

(2) any member of the Senate residing at a greater distance than 400 miles from Ottawa may commute such allowance for moving or transportation and travelling expenses, receiving in lieu thereof an allowance of $20. per day for each day necessarily occupied in the journey between his place of residence and Ottawa, the day of departure and the day of arrival being counted each as a full day.

The other advantages are comparable to those of the Members of the House of Commons.

Yours very truly,

Yves Forest, Q.C.
Member for Missisquoi.

YF/jc.
CC. M. Fernand Leblanc,
Member for Laurier.

APPENDICE «A»

CANADA

Secrétaire parlementaire

CABINET DU PRÉSIDENT DU CONSEIL PRIVÉ

Ottawa, le 22 mai 1969

Monsieur D. Lévesque,
Secrétaire du Comité permanent
des prévisions budgétaires en général,
Chambre des communes,
Ottawa.

Monsieur,

La présente fait suite à ma comparution devant votre Comité lors de l'étude des prévisions budgétaires du Sénat. Je me suis engagé, en réponse à une question de M. Barry Mather, député, à vous obtenir des renseignements sur les allocations de déplacement versées aux sénateurs, par rapport à celles que l'on verse aux députés.

On me donne les renseignements suivants:

(1) pour chaque session du Parlement, les membres du Sénat reçoivent les frais réels de déplacement ou de transport et les frais de voyage entre le lieu de leur résidence et Ottawa qu'entraîne l'exercice de leurs fonctions en tant que membres du Sénat, si ces frais n'excèdent pas le coût du transport aérien en classe économique (plus le transport terrestre entre le point de rencontre du service de transport aérien et l'aéroport);

(2) chaque membre du Sénat dont le lieu de résidence est éloigné de plus de 400 milles d'Ottawa puisse échanger cette allocation de frais de déplacement ou de transport et de frais de voyage contre une allocation de $20 par jour pour chaque jour qu'il doit nécessairement employer à effectuer le trajet entre le lieu de sa résidence et Ottawa, le jour du départ et celui de l'arrivée comptant, chacun, pour un jour entier.

Les autres avantages accordés sont les mêmes que ceux dont bénéficient les députés.

Veuillez agréer, monsieur, l'assurance de ma considération distinguée.

Yves Forest, c.r.,
député de Missisquoi.

cc. M. Fernand Leblanc,
député de Laurier.

APPENDIX "B"

CANADA

Parliamentary Secretary

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE PRIVY COUNCIL

Ottawa, May 22, 1969.

Mr. D. Lévesque, Clerk,
Standing Committee on Miscellaneous Estimates,
House of Commons,
Ottawa.

Dear Mr. Lévesque:

During discussion of the Senate estimates, I had undertaken, in response to a question raised by Mr. Gaston Clermont, M.P., to give further details on pensions paid to senators.

According to my sources of information, fourteen senators receive a pension of $8,000 each and six widows of senators receive a pension of $2,666.66 each.

You will note that this is more than the amount provided for which is only an estimate and can vary according to the number of those who may pass away during the year.

Yours very truly,

Yves Forest, Q.C.,

YF/jc.

CC. M. Fernand Leblanc,
Member for Laurier.

APPENDICE «B»

CANADA

Secrétaire parlementaire

CABINET DU PRÉSIDENT DU CONSEIL PRIVÉ

Ottawa, le 22 mai 1969

Monsieur D. Lévesque, Greffier,
Comité des prévisions budgétaires en général,
Chambre des communes,
Ottawa.

Cher monsieur Lévesque,

Lors de l'étude des prévisions budgétaires du Sénat, je m'étais engagé, pour faire suite à une question de M. Gaston Clermont, député, de donner des détails sur les pensions payées à des Sénateurs retraités.

Or, suivant mes informations, des pensions seraient versées à quatorze Sénateurs au montant de $8,000.00 chacun et à six veuves de Sénateurs au montant de $2,666.66 chacune.

Vous remarquerez que cela dépasse le montant prévu qui est un estimé seulement et qui peut varier suivant les décès qui peuvent survenir au cours d'une année.

Votre tout dévoué,

Yves Forest, C.R.

cc. à M. Fernand Leblanc, député de Laurier.

The Queen's Printer, Ottawa, 1969
L'Imprimeur de la Reine, Ottawa, 1969

OFFICIAL BILINGUAL ISSUE
HOUSE OF COMMONS
First Session
Twenty-eighth Parliament, 1968-69

FASCICULE BILINGUE OFFICIEL
CHAMBRE DES COMMUNES
Première session de la
vingt-huitième législature, 1968-1969

STANDING COMMITTEE
ON
MISCELLANEOUS ESTIMATES

COMITÉ PERMANENT
DES
PRÉVISIONS BUDGÉTAIRES EN GÉNÉRAL

Chairman M. Fernand E. Leblanc *Président*

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS
AND EVIDENCE

PROCÈS-VERBAUX ET
TÉMOIGNAGES

No. 21

THURSDAY, MAY 29, 1969

LE JEUDI 29 MAI 1969

Respecting

The Votes listed in the Main Estimates 1969-70, relating to the Treasury Board; the Governor General and Lieutenant-Governors; the Senate and the Privy Council.

Concernant

Les crédits énumérés au budget principal de 1969-1970, concernant le Conseil du trésor; le Gouverneur général et les lieutenants-gouverneurs; le Sénat et le Conseil privé.

WITNESSES—TÉMOINS

(*See Minutes of Proceedings*) (*Voir Procès-verbaux*)

STANDING COMMITTEE
ON
MISCELLANEOUS ESTIMATES

COMITÉ PERMANENT
DES
PRÉVISIONS BUDGÉTAIRES
EN GÉNÉRAL

Chairman: M. Fernand-E. Leblanc *Président.*

Vice-Chairman: Mr. Jack Cullen *Vice-président.*

and Messrs. et MM.

Alkenbrack
Clermont,
Dumont,
Guay (*Lévis*),
Guay (*St-Boniface*),
Gundlock,
[37]Lefebvre,
Mather,
McCutcheon,
Noël,
Paproski,
Penner,
Ricard,
Robinson,
Rochon,
Thomson (*Battleford-Kindersley*),
Trudel—20.

Le secrétaire du Comité,

D. E. Levesque

Clerk of the Committee.

Pursuant to S.O. 65(4)(*b*)

[37]Replaced Mr. Portelance

Conformément à l'article 65 (4) *b*) du Règlement

[37] Remplace M. Portelance

ORDER OF REFERENCE

HOUSE OF COMMONS

THURSDAY, February 20, 1969.

Ordered,—That Vote 50 relating to the Auditor General;

Votes 1 and 5 relating to the Governor General and Lieutenant-Governors;

Votes 1, 5, 10, 15 and 20 relating to the Senate and the House of Commons;

Vote 25 relating to the Library of Parliament;

Votes 1, 5, 10 and 15 relating to the Privy Council;

Vote 20 relating to the Science Council;

Vote 30 relating to the Public Service Staff Relations Board;

Votes 20, 25, L135 and L140 relating to the National Capital Commission;

Votes 80 and 85 relating to the Public Service Commission;

Votes 1, 5, 15 and 20 relating to the Department of Supply and Services;

Votes 30 and 35 relating to Canadian Arsenals Limited;

Vote 40 relating to the Canadian Commercial Corporation;

Votes 1, 5 and 10 relating to the Treasury Board; and

Votes 15, 20, 25 and 30 relating to the National Research Council be referred to the Standing Committee on Miscellaneous Estimates.

ATTEST:

ORDRE DE RENVOI

CHAMBRE DES COMMUNES

Le JEUDI 20 février 1969

Il est ordonné,—Que le crédit n° 50 concernant l'auditeur général;

Les crédits n°s 1 et 5 concernant la Gouverneur général et les lieutenants-gouverneurs;

Les crédits n°s 1, 5, 10, 15 et 20 concernant le Sénat et la Chambre des communes;

Le crédit n° 25 concernant la Bibliothèque du Parlement;

Les crédits n°s 1, 5, 10 et 15 concernant le Bureau du Conseil privé;

Le crédit n° 20 concernant le Conseil des Sciences du Canada;

Le crédit n° 30 concernant la Commission des relations de travail dans la Fonction publique du Canada;

Les crédits n°s 20, 25, L135 et L140 concernant la Commission de la capitale nationale;

Les crédits n°s 80 et 85 concernant la Commission de la Fonction publique;

Les crédits n°s 1, 5, 15 et 20 concernant le ministère des Approvisionnements et Services;

Les crédits n°s 30 et 35 concernant les Arsenaux canadiens Limitée;

Le crédit n° 40 concernant la Corporation commerciale canadienne;

Les crédits n°s 1, 5 et 10 concernant le conseil du Trésor;

Les crédits n°s 15, 20, 25 et 30 concernant le Conseil national de recherches soient renvoyés au comité permanent des prévisions budgétaires en général.

ATTESTÉ:

Le Greffier de la Chambre des communes,

ALISTAIR FRASER

The Clerk of the House of Commons.

REPORT TO THE HOUSE

THURSDAY, May 29, 1969.

The Standing Committee on Miscellaneous Estimates has the honour to present its

NINTH REPORT

Pursuant to its Order of Reference of Thursday, February 20, 1969, your Committee has considered the following items listed in the Main Estimates 1969-70:

Votes 1, 5 and 10 relating to the Treasury Board;

Votes 1 and 5 relating to the Governor General and Lieutenant-Governors;

Votes 1 and 5 relating to the Senate;

Votes 1, 5, 10 and 15 relating to the Privy Council.

Your Committee commends them to the House.

A copy of the relevant Minutes of Proceedings and Evidence (*Issues Nos. 19, 20 and 21*) is tabled.

Respectfully submitted,

Le président,

FERNAND-E. LEBLANC,

Chairman.

RAPPORT À LA CHAMBRE

Le JEUDI 29 mai 1969.

Le Comité permanent des prévisions budgétaires en général a l'honneur de présenter son

NEUVIÈME RAPPORT

Conformément à l'ordre de renvoi du jeudi 20 février 1969, le Comité a examiné les postes suivants du budget principal des dépenses de 1969-1970:

Les crédits n°s 1, 5 et 10 concernant le conseil du Trésor;

Les crédits n°s 1 et 5 concernant le Gouverneur général et les lieutenants-gouverneurs;

Les crédits n°s 1 et 5 concernant le Sénat;

Les crédits n°s 1, 5, 10 et 15 concernant le Bureau du Conseil privé.

Le Comité les recommande à l'approbation de la Chambre.

Un exemplaire des procès-verbaux et témoignages s'y rapportant (*fascicules n°s 19, 20 et 21*) est déposé.

Respectueusement soumis,

Le président,

FERNAND-E. LEBLANC,

Chairman.

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

THURSDAY, May 29, 1969.
(22)

[*Text*]

The Standing Committee on Miscellaneous Estimates met this day at 4.05 p.m. The Chairman, Mr. Fernand Leblanc, presided.

Members present: Messrs. Clermont, Cullen, Guay (*Lévis*), Guay (*St. Boniface*), Leblanc (*Laurier*), Lefebvre, Mather, Noël, Penner, Rochon and Trudel —(11).

The Chairman informed the Committee that the purpose of this meeting is to adopt items listed in the Main Estimates 1969-70 which were considered at the meetings of Tuesday, May 6 and Thursday, May 15, 1969.

The following items were carried:

TREASURY BOARD

Vote 1, Departmental Administration, $6,739,000.

Vote 5, Government Administration, $60,000,000.

Vote 10, Government share of Surgical Medical Insurance Premiums, $17,700,000.

GOVERNOR GENERAL AND LIEUTENANT-GOVERNORS

Vote 1, Office of the Secretary to the Governor General, $614,900.

Vote 5, Grants to the Lieutenant-Governor of the Provinces, $145,000.

THE SENATE

Vote 1, Allowance in lieu of residence to the Speaker, $3,000.

PROCÈS-VERBAL

Le JEUDI 29 mai 1969
(22)

[*Texte*]

Le Comité permanent des prévisions budgétaires en général se réunit aujourd'hui à 4 h. 05 de l'après-midi, sous la présidence de M. Fernand Leblanc, président.

Présents: MM. Clermont, Cullen, Guay (*Lévis*), Guay (*Saint-Boniface*), Leblanc, (*Laurier*), Lefebvre, Mather, Noël, Penner, Rochon, Trudel—(11).

Le président informe le Comité que cette séance a pour but d'adopter les postes du budget principal des dépenses de 1969-1970, étudiés au cours des séances du mardi 6 mai et du jeudi 15 mai 1969.

Les crédits suivants sont adoptés:

CONSEIL DU TRÉSOR

Le crédit n° 1, Administration centrale, $6,739,000.

Le crédit n° 5, Gestion de l'État, $60,000,000.

Le crédit n° 10, Quote-part de l'État des primes d'assurance chirurgicale-médicale, $17,700,000.

GOUVERNEUR GÉNÉRAL ET LIEUTENANTS-GOUVERNEURS

Le crédit n° 1, Secrétariat du Gouverneur général, $614,900.

Le crédit n° 5, Subventions aux lieutenants-gouverneurs, $145,000.

LE SÉNAT

Le crédit n° 1, Indemnité de logement au président du Sénat, $3,000.

Vote 5, General Administration, $2,049,500.

Le crédit n° 5, Administration générale, $2,049,500.

PRIVY COUNCIL

CONSEIL PRIVÉ

Vote 1, Operation and Maintenance of the Prime Minister's residence, $43,000.

Le crédit n° 1, Entretien et administration de la résidence du Premier ministre, $43,000.

Vote 5, Payments, etc., $22,500

Le crédit n° 5, Nonobstant la Loi sur l'administration de la Loi sur le Sénat et la Chambre des communes, $22,500.

Vote 10, General Administration, $3,468,000.

Le crédit n° 10, Administration générale, $3,468,000.

Vote 15, Expenses of Royal Commissions, $2,062,300.

Le crédit n° 15, Dépenses des commissions royales d'enquête, $2,062,300.

This completed the Order of Reference.

Ceci complète l'Ordre de renvoi.

At 4.10 p.m., the Committee adjourned to the call of the Chair.

A 4 h. 10 de l'après-midi, le Comité s'ajourne jusqu'à nouvelle convocation du président.

Le secrétaire du Comité,

D. E. Levesque,

Clerk of the Committee.

[*Texte*]

EVIDENCE

(*Recorded by Electronic Apparatus*)

Thursday, May 29, 1969.

• 1606

The Chairman: I call this meeting to order now that I see a quorum.

As mentioned on the Notice of Meeting that you all received, today we are gathered to adopt the items previously considered. They were examined at the two previous meetings and you will find the discussions in the Minutes of Proceedings and Evidence, No. 19 and No. 20.

Treasury Board—Votes 1, 5 and 10 agreed to.

Governor General and Lieutenant-Governors—Votes 1 and 5 agreed to.

The Senate—Votes 1 and 5 agreed to.

Privy Council—Votes 1, 5, 10 and 15 agreed to.

The Chairman: This completes our Order of Reference and I would like to have your authorization to make a final report as soon as possible on those Estimates that were referred by the House to our Committee.

Some hon. Members: Agreed.

The Chairman: This meeting is adjourned. Thank you for your presence.

[*Interprétation*]

TÉMOIGNAGES

(*Enregistrement électronique*)

Le jeudi 29 mai 1969

Le président: Nous commençons cette réunion, maintenant qu'il y a quorum.

Comme l'indique l'avis de convocation que vous avez tous reçu, nous nous réunissons aujourd'hui afin d'adopter les crédits considérés auparavant. Ces crédits ont été examinés au cours des deux dernières réunions et vous les trouverez discutés dans les procès-verbaux et les témoignages n° 19 et n° 20.

Conseil du Trésor—Crédits 1, 5 et 10. Adoptés.

Gouverneur général et lieutenants-gouverneurs—Crédits 1 et 5. Adoptés.

Le Sénat—Crédits 1 et 5. Adoptés.

Conseil Privé—Crédits 1, 5, 10 et 15. Adoptés.

Le président: Ceci complète notre mandat et j'aimerais avoir votre autorisation pour faire le plus tôt possible un dernier rapport sur les prévisions budgétaires qui ont été transmises par la Chambre à notre Comité.

Des voix: Accordée.

Le président: Cette réunion est ajournée. Merci d'y avoir pris part.

The Queen's Printer, Ottawa, 1969
L'Imprimeur de la Reine, Ottawa, 1969

HOUSE OF COMMONS

Standing Committee on Miscellaneous Estimates
1st Session, 28th Parliament, 1968-1969

INDEX

Compiled by Reference Branch, Library of Parliament.

Page

Contents

BILL C-172 - FINANCIAL ADMINISTRATION ACT — Issues 10-12

ESTIMATES - — Issues 1-9,13-21

BILL C-172

AN ACT TO AMEND THE FINANCIAL ADMINISTRATION ACT

APPROPRIATIONS
- Commitments, procedure — 304-306
- Divisions — 285-287,289-300
- Lapsing — 308-316,328-333, 335-337
- Parliament when deemed not to be in Session, procedure — 301-303

AUDITOR GENERAL
- Post audit to be continued — 256,296-297
- Salary — 324

BILL C-172
- Amendment
  - Clause 13: Lapsing of appropriations — 335-337
- Discussion
  - Clause 4: Office of the Comptroller abolished — 253-261
  - Clause 5: Establishment of accounts — 261-268

Page

BILL C-172 (Cont'd)
Clause 6: Charges for services or use of facilities 269-271
Clause 7: Deletion from the accounts of obligation or debt.... not exceeding $5,000 271-285,344-354
Clause 8: Appropriation allotments 285-288,289-300
Clause 8(5): Contracts where Parliament not in Session 301-303
Clause 9: Form and documentation of requisitions 303-307
Clause 11: Form of payments out of CRF 307-308
Clause 13: Lapsing of appropriations 308-316,328-333
Clause 14: Repayment of accountable advances 317-319
Clause 15: Public Property 317-319
Clause 16: Accounts of Canada 319
Clause 17: Assignment of Debts due to the Crown under Payment Bonds 319-324,337
Report to House, with amendment (Fifth) (12-3)

COMPTROLLER OF THE TREASURY
See
Finance Department

DRURY, HON. C.M., PRESIDENT, TREASURY BOARD
Statement 249-251

FINANCE DEPARTMENT
Comptroller of the Treasury and staff
Advances, repayment, authority transferred 317
Functions relating to government departments, pre-audit eliminated 255,257,261
Transfer 253,257-260,355-356
Fiscal policy, Minister, responsibilities 262-263,265,268

Page

GLASSCO COMMISSION
See
Royal Commission on Government Organization

GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS
Audit service divisions 306-307
Board of survey, management of stores 321
Charges for services rendered 269-271

INTERDEPARTMENTAL DEBTS COMMITTEE
Statistics 1968-69 284

LEBLANC (D.), INC., MONTREAL
Subcontractors not bonded, consequences, letter concerning 338-339,342-343

MILLHAVEN INN, BATH, ONT.
Letter concerning accommodation of D. Leblanc Inc., subcontractor, NSF cheques 338-339,342-343

MISCELLANEOUS ESTIMATES STANDING COMMITTEE
Procedure 326-327,337
Referral to Committee, reasons 250-251

PAYMENT BONDS
Bonding companies, labour and material bonds 319-321,337-344

PUBLIC ACCOUNTS
Receiver General, Minister of Finance, involvement 322-323
Report of obligation, debts, claims deleted from accounts 274-275,350

PUBLIC PROPERTY
Custody, control, records 317-318

Page

RECEIVER GENERAL FOR CANADA
Transfer from Minister of Finance to Minister of Supply and Services, functions 253,254,261-262,265-268,307,317

REVOLVING FUNDS
Operations, purposes 318-319

ROYAL COMMISSION ON GOVERNMENT ORGANIZATION
Recommendations, implementation 260,261,275,295-296

SUPPLY AND SERVICES DEPARTMENT
Functions 263,356
Minister of Department also Receiver General, functions 253,254,319,322

TREASURY BOARD
Appropriations, devision, approval changes 293-300
Cost accounting system, responsibility unchanged 254
Deletion from public accounts, debt or claims, maximum increased, authority, procedures 271-284,344-354
Government charges for services rendered, responsibility 269
Public property, responsibility 317-318
Repayment of accountable advances, authority 317

ESTIMATES

AGRICULTURE DEPARTMENT
Health of Animals, recipients of compensation 115
See also
Estimates, Supplementary (B), 1968-69

Page

AGRICULTURAL STABILIZATION BOARD
Estimates, procedure 87-88

AUDITOR GENERAL'S OFFICE
Auditor, independent, appointment 400
Financial Administration Act, effect 403-404
Man-years, number authorized 396-397
Office space provided in other departments 397-398
Personnel, hiring, promotions procedure, changes recommended 400-402
Post-audit, findings, recommendations 404-405
See also
Estimates, Main, 1969-70

B AND B COMMISSION
See
Royal Commission on Bilingualism and Biculturalism

BARBER COMMISSION
See
Royal Commission on Farm Machinery

BERNIER COMMISSION
See
Royal Commission on Pilotage

CARDE
See
National Defence Department. Canadian Armamament Research and Development Establishment

CYC
See
Company of Young Canadians

Page

CANADA-UNITED STATES INTER-PARLIAMENTARY CONFERENCES
Expenses, amount 144

CANADIAN ARSENALS LIMITED
Feasibility 561-562
Glassford, J.S., President, statement 559-560
Long Branch (Ont.), Small Arms Division 559-560
Saint-Paul l'Ermite (Que.), Ammunition Filling plant 559-565
United States, sales, amount 563-564
See also
Estimates, Main, 1969-70

CANADIAN COMMERCIAL CORPORATION
Glassford, J.S., President, statement 566-567
Loans, interest 569-571
Losses 571-572
Sales and contracting policy 567-569,571-572, 573
See also
Estimates, Main, 1969-70

CANADIAN GOVERNMENT PRINTING BUREAU
Revolving Fund, new 88-89

CANADIAN INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT AGENCY
See
Estimates, Supplementary (B), 1968-69

CANADIAN NATIONAL RAILWAY COMPANY
See
Estimates, Supplementary (B), 1968-69, Transport Department

CANADIAN PATENTS AND DEVELOPMENT LIMITED
Functions 531

Page

CANADIAN RADIO-TELEVISION COMMISSION
See
Estimates, Supplementary (B), 1968-69

CANADIAN TRANSPORT COMMISSION
Railway Grade Crossing Fund 193-194

CAPE BRETON DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION
Silicosis victims, compensation 141-142,225,231

CARSON, J.J., CHAIRMAN, PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
Commission, history, activities, statements 1-2,580-582

CENTRAL DATA PROCESSING SERVICE BUREAU
See
Estimates, Supplementary (B), 1968-69, Solicitor General's Department

CENTRAL MORTGAGE AND HOUSING CORPORATION
Funding 234
Hellyer, Hon. Paul, Minister responsible for CMHC, statement 232-233
Home improvement loans, ceiling 238
Individual house builders, loans 240
Interest rates 236-237,239-240
Losses, insurance premiums coverage 236
Rental income housing project 234-235
See also
Estimates, Supplementary (B), 1968-69

CHRÉTIEN, HON. JEAN, MINISTER OF INDIAN AFFAIRS AND NORTHERN DEVELOPMENT
Departmental re-organization, statement 217,219
Estimates, Supplementary (B), 1968-69, statement 216-217

Page

COMPANY OF YOUNG CANADIANS (Cont'd)
Quebec, "Compagnie des Jeunes Québécois" 66
Volunteers
Applications, qualifications, training, political affiliations 67-68,72
Areas worked in, publicity 15-17,24,77
Citizenship 66,78
Contracts, length 19
Number, remuneration 13
Pay-roll deductions, exemptions 80
Recruiting program 74
See also
Estimates, Revised Main, 1968-69

CONSUMER AND CORPORATE AFFAIRS DEPARTMENT
Personnel, number, 1968-69, 1969-70 121-122
See also
Estimates, Supplementary (B), 1968-69

DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS
Special assignments, financing 208

DOMINION COAL BOARD
Phasing out 124-125

DRURY, HON. C.M., PRESIDENT TREASURY BOARD
Estimates, final supplementary, rationale 87-88,101,117-118
Estimates, Supplementary (B) 1968-69, statement 88-89

ELDORADO NUCLEAR LIMITED
Loans, amount 88
See also
Estimates, Supplementary (B), 1968-69

ENERGY, MINES AND RESOURCES DEPARTMENT
See
Estimates, Supplementary (B), 1968-69

	Page
ESTIMATES	
Contingencies fund, use, criticism	89,91-93
Final supplementary, rationale, statement, Hon. C.M. Drury, President, Treasury Board	87-88,101,117-118
Transfer votes, procedure	89,101,103,118,229
ESTIMATES, REVISED MAIN, 1968-69	
Company of Young Canadians	
Consultants' fees	21-22,65,79,80-86
Vote 48 - Payment...	(Appendix "A", p. 2-3),13,26,63
Public Service Commission	
Advertising costs	40
Bilingual and Bicultural Development Program, cost	27-30,34-36,41-45, 61
Bureau of Staff Development and Training, expenditures	30
Hull, language school, acquisition	11
Language Training Program, cost	8-10
Professional and Special Services, increased expenditures	52,54-55
Vote 80 - Salaries and contingencies, etc. ...	(Appendix "A", p. 4-9),1,12,40,47, 52,54,56-57
Vote 85 - Construction or Acquisition of Buildings etc. ...	57,60
Report to House (First)	(10-4)
Secretary of State Department	
Vote 48 - Company of Young Canadians	(Appendix "A", p. 2-3),13,26,63
Votes 80, 85 - Public Service Commission	(Appendix "A", p. 4-9),1,12,40,47, 52,54,56-57

Page

ESTIMATES, SUPPLEMENTARY (B), 1968-69
Agriculture Department
Canadian Livestock Feed Board, vote 65b - Freight assistance - feed grains (7-5),115-116
Quebec agreement, crop insurance, payments 112-114
Vancouver Island, golden nematode, eradication program 113
Canadian International Development Agency, salaries and expenses (7-5),128
Canadian Radio-Television Commission, salaries and other expenses 167-172
Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation
Votes L116b, L117b, 118b, 119b agreed to on division 232-242,244
Communications Department
Tropospheric scatter terminal, Frobisher, additional cost 119-20
Vote 10b CN telex, Northwest Territories (7-5),117
Consumer and Corporate Affairs Department
Vote 1b - Departmental Administration, Professional and Special Services (7-5),120-121
Vote 25b - Consumer Affairs Branch (7-5),122-123
Eldorado Nuclear Limited, loans, amount 202-203,244
Energy, Mines and Resources Department
Canadian Council of Resource Ministers, contribution, increase 123-124
Vote 75b - Dominion Coal Board (7-5),124-125
Vote L3b - Loans to Eldorado Nuclear Limited 202-203,244
External Affairs Department
Lake Ontario Claims Tribunal, operating costs 127
Payments to United States government in settlement of Gut Dam claims 127
Vote 1b - Department - Administration (7-5),125-127

	Page
ESTIMATES, SUPPLEMENTARY (B), 1968-69 (Cont'd)	
Vote 15b - Department, Assessment, grants, contributions...	(7-5),127
Vote 30b - Canadian International Development Agency - Salaries and expenses	(7-5),128
Vote L22b - Regional Passport Offices	203-204,244
Finance Department	
Vote 2b - Department - Grant to Endowment Fund of the Vanier Institute of the Family	(7-5),128-131
Vote 30b - Royal Canadian Mint - Administration, Operation and Maintenance	(7-5),131-132
Vote 46b - Exchange Fund Account	(7-5),132-133
Vote L27b - Canada Student Loans Act... agreed to on division	204-205
Fisheries and Forestry Department	
Vote 15b - Fisheries Management and Development - Grants, Contributions and Subsidies	(7-5),133-134
Vote 40b - Forestry - Grants and Contributions	(7-5),134-135
Vote L32b - Loans... to assist processors of ground-fish...	206,244
Indian Affairs and Northern Development Department	
Vote L35b - Loans to Indians under Section 69 of the Indian Act	207,244
Vote L65b - Northern Canada Power Commission	207,244
Industry, Trade and Commerce Department	
Vote 38b - Grains - Payments .... to facilitate sales of wheat	137-140
Vote L82b - Dominion Bureau of Statistics	208,244

	Page
ESTIMATES, SUPPLEMENTARY (B), 1968-69 (Cont'd)	
Labour Department	
Vote 5b - Labour Relations - Administration	140-141,(9-3)
Vote 12b - Labour Standards and Benefits - Cape Breton Development Corporation, carried on division	141-142,244
Vote 20b - Research and Development, Grants, Contributions and Subsidies...	142-144,(9-3)
Legislature	
Vote 5b - The Senate - General Administration	144,(9-3)
Vote 15b - House of Commons - Expenses of the Canada-United States Inter-Parliamentary Conferences	144-145,(9-3)
Manpower and Immigration Department	
Vote 6b - Development and Utilization of Manpower	146,(9-3)
Vote 10b - Manpower	146-147(9-3)
Vote 15b - Immigration - Administration, Operation and Maintenance	147-151,(9-3)
Vote 25b - Manpower - Program Development	151-152(9-3)
National Health and Welfare Department	
Vote 20b - Medical Services - Administration, Operation and Maintenance	152-153,(9-3)
Vote 40b - Welfare Services - Administration, Operation and Maintenance	153,(9-3)
National Revenue Department	
Vote L83b - Customs and Excise	208-210,244

	Page
ESTIMATES, SUPPLEMENTARY (B), 1968-69 (Cont'd)	
Privy Council	
Vote 10b - Privy Council Office - General administration	153-154,(9-3)
Vote 15b - Expenses of Royal Commissions	154,(9-3)
Public Works Department	
Vote 15b - Accommodation Services - Construction....	155-156,(9-3)
Regional Development Department	
Vote 10b - Grants, subventions and payments	160-162
Reports to House	
Second	(7-5)
Third	(9-3)
Fourth	(9-3),(9-5)
Secretary of State Department	
Vote 1b - Departmental Administration	163-165
Vote 2b - Construction.... - National Arts Centre....	165-167
Vote 40b - Canadian Radio-Television Commission - Salaries and other Expenses (on division)	167-172
Solicitor General's Department	
Vote 1b - Departmental Administration	172-173,244-245
Vote 8b - Reimbursement of the Supply Service Revolving Fund	174-176
Vote 15b - Services - Administration	177-183
Vote 16b - Reimbursement of the Central Data Processing Service Bureau Working Capital Advance	183
Vote L103b - Correctional Services - Loans to parolees	210-211,244
Supply and Services Department	
Vote L104b - Canadian Government Printing Bureau	211-212,244

	Page
ESTIMATES, SUPPLEMENTARY (B), 1968-69 (Cont'd)	
Transport Department	
Vote 3b - Reimbursement of revolving fund	183-184
Vote 15b - Railways and Steamships - Payments to the Canadian National Railway Company	184-187
Vote 30b - Railways and Steamships - Construction....	187-190
Vote 40b - Air Services - Grants	190-193
Vote 57b - Canadian Transport Commission	193-194
Vote 60b - Railway Grade Crossing Fund	194-195
Vote 65b - Steamship Subventions for Coastal Services	196-197
Vote 75b - National Harbours Board - Payment	197-198
Vote 77b - National Harbours Board - Payment	198-200
Vote L107b - Loans ... for the construction and acquisition of ferry vessels.... agreed on division	212-215
Vote L110b - Vancouver International Airport	235,244
Treasury Board	
Debts, written off	
Finance Dept.	108,109
Labour Dept.	107
National Defence Dept., "Ormocto Affair"	106-107
National Revenue Dept.	104-106
Royal Canadian Mounted Police	106,107
Vote 5b - Contingencies	(7-5),89,90-104
Vote 6b - ... delete... certain debts...	(7-5),104

	Page
ESTIMATES, SUPPLEMENTARY (B), 1968-69 (Cont'd)	
Veterans Affairs Department	
Vote 30b - Treatment Services - Operation and Maintenance	200-201
Vote 35 - Treatment Services - Hospital Construction, ...	201-202
ESTIMATES, MAIN, 1969-70	
Auditor General	
Auditor General's Report, cost	398-399
Professional and Special Services, cost	402
Transportation and Communications, expenditures	399-400
Vote 50 - Salaries and Expenses of Office	406
Canadian Arsenals Limited, expenditures, revenue	560,562-563,566
Canadian Commercial Corporation	
Administrative costs, 1969-70	567,569,573
Dollar value of contracts, 1966-67, 1967-68	569,571
Governor General and Lieutenant-Governors	
Vote 1 - Office of the Secretary to the Governor General	614-615,617,(21-4)
Vote 5 - Grants to Lieutenant-Governors of the Provinces	614-615,(21-4)
House of Commons	
Members travelling expenses 1968-69, 1969-70	374
Parliamentary indemnity decreased	374
Vote 10 - The Speaker of the House of Commons - Allowance in lieu of residence	379,(15-3)
Vote 20 - Information	374-375,(16-3)
Library of Parliament	
Professional and special services, 1968-69, 1969-70	386-387
Transportation, and communication expenditure increase	386
Utilities, materials and supplies	387-388

	Page
ESTIMATES, MAIN 1969-70 (Cont'd)	
National Capital Commission	
Grants to Historical Societies	452
Information services, expenditures reduced	436-437
Loans, repayment, interest	453-454
Vote 20 - Grants in lieu of taxes	441,453,454,455-456
Vote 25 - Payment to the National Capital Fund	441-443
National Research Council	
Expendable Research Equipment, reduction	532-533
Professional and Special Services, cost 1969-70, use	531-532
Publications, cost	550
Salaries, superannuation, increase	533-534
Vote 15 - Operations vote	529,530,531,549, (19-3)
Vote 25 - University grants and Scholarships	529,534,(19-3)
Vote 30 - Industrial Research Assistance Program (IRAP)	529,553,(19-3)
Public Service Commission Bilingualism, expenditures	586,589-590
Public Service Staff Relations Board	
Estimates 1968-69, estimated 1969-70 comparison	576
Pension Fund, payment	578
Privy Council	
Votes 1, 5,10,15 - carried	(21-4)
Reports to House	
Sixth	(15-3)
Seventh, with recommendations	(16-3),527
Eighth	(19-3)
Ninth	(21-4)
Science Council of Canada	
Special studies, cost 1968-69, 1969-70	420-421
Vote 20 - Carried	(16-3)
Senate	
Vote 1 - Allowance in lieu of Residence to the Speaker	617
Vote 5 - General Administration	619

Page

ESTIMATES, MAIN, 1969-70 (Cont'd)
Supply and Services Department
Canadian Arsenals Limited 559-566
Canadian Commercial Corporation 566-573
Postage, cost 501-502
Professional and Special Services, expenditure 1968-69, 1969-70 516-517
Superannuation Account, contribution 508
Treasury Board
Vote 1 - Departmental Administration 605-606,(21-4)
Vote 5 - Government Administration (contingencies) 606-608,(21-4)
Vote 10 - Government's share of Surgical-medical insurance premiums, etc. - Carried (21-4)

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS DEPARTMENT
Foreign Service Officers abroad, Canadian publications, information, increase 126-127
Passport offices, decentralization 204
See also
Estimates, Supplementary (B), 1968-69

FINANCE DEPARTMENT
Superannuation Branch, criticism of records 110-111
See also
Estimates, Supplementary (B), 1968-69

FINKELMAN, J., CHAIRMAN, PUBLIC SERVICE STAFF RELATIONS BOARD
Board, functions, operation, statement 574-576

FISHERIES AND FORESTRY DEPARTMENT
Assistance in the Construction of Vessels Program 133
Fishing industry, salted groundfish, subsidy 134
Forestry, British Columbia Festival of Forestry Organization, history, purpose 135
See also
Estimates, Supplementary (B), 1968-69

Page

FISHERIES PRICES SUPPORT BOARD
Groundfish industry, loans, amount 88,90,134

FRASER, ALLISTAIR, CLERK OF THE HOUSE OF COMMONS
Organization, statement 358-359

GLASSCO COMMISSION
See
Royal Commission on Government Organization

GLASSFORD, J.S., PRESIDENT, CANADIAN ARSENALS LIMITED
Statement 559-560

GLASSFORD, J.S., PRESIDENT, CANADIAN COMMERCIAL CORPORATION
Statement 566-567

GOODING, S.G., ACTING DIRECTOR, COMPANY OF YOUNG CANADIANS
Company objectives, operations, statement 13-15
Corrections to meeting Nov. 15/68 63
International program, comments by R.J. Perrault, M.P., discussion 68-71

GOVERNOR GENERAL
Salary 613
See also
Estimates, Main, 1969-70

HELLYER, HON. PAUL, MINISTER OF TRANSPORT
Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation, statement 232-233

HOUSE OF COMMONS
Bilingual, clerical, secretarial staff, bonus recommended, discussed (16-3),469-487,586
Committees, new process, staff 366-367

Page

HOUSE OF COMMONS (Cont'd)
Language training, eligibility 474,476,486-487
Protective Staff, bilingual personnel, eligibility criteria, language training 369-373
Secretaries, replacements for holidays, sick leave 492-493
Senate, comparison of expenses 621-626
Space, shortage 375-376,493
Staffs of branches
Compensation for overtime 363,377,378
Grievance procedure 496
Salary increases, comparison administrative, legislative branches 376-377,495-496
Shortage, adequacy 360-362
Translators, interpreters, effect of extended sittings, committee reports, jurisdiction 364-366,367-369
Whips' offices, salaries, overtime, recommendation 377,448-449,488-492, 496-497,499,555
See also
Estimates, Supplementary (B), 1968-69. Legislature
Estimates, Main, 1969-70

HUNNIUS, GERRY
"Report on the Development of an International Program for the Company of Young Canadians" 20-22,68-71

INDIAN AFFAIRS AND NORTHERN DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT
Indian Claims Commission in Ottawa, representatives, number 222-224
Mining industry, Northern areas, grants 221-222,468
See also
Estimates, Supplementary (B), 1968-69

Page

INDUSTRY, TRADE AND COMMERCE DEPARTMENT
See
Estimates, Supplementary (B), 1968-69

JAMIESON, HON. D.C., MINISTER OF SUPPLY AND SERVICES, AND RECEIVER GENERAL FOR CANADA
Department, statement 503-508

LABOUR DEPARTMENT
Inquiry into labour unrest in ports of Montreal, Trois Rivières, and Quebec, cost 141
Winter House Building Incentive Programs, termination 143-144
See also
Estimates, Supplementary (B), 1968-69

LIBRARY OF PARLIAMENT
Books
Acquisition, number, rationale 389-390
Borrowed, recalled, replaced 390
Cataloguing 391-392
Information requested by Member, anonymity 393-394
National Library Act, effect 388,393
Reference and Research Branches, distinction 392
Research department, expansion discussed 384-386,395
Space shortage, problem 380,383-384
"Stack" privileges 381-383,449-450
See also
Estimates, Main, 1969-70

LIEUTENANT-GOVERNORS
Expenses more than salaries 615-616
Residences, costs, payments 615
See also
Estimates, Main, 1969-70. Governor General and Lieutenant-Governors

Page

MacTAGGART-COWAN, DR. P.D., EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, SCIENCE COUNCIL OF CANADA
Council, activities, statement 417-420

MANPOWER AND IMMIGRATION DEPARTMENT
Immigrants, Czechoslovakia 148-150
Manpower training programs, technical vocational, adult occupational 146-147,151-152
Municipal Winter Works Incentive Programs, phasing out 146
See also
Estimates, Supplementary (B), 1968-69

MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT
Automobile allowances, increase recommended 497-500
Bilingual secretaries, availability, bonus 5,31
Senators, comparison of privileges, travel allowances 619-621,639

MISCELLANEOUS ESTIMATES, STANDING COMMITTEE
Procedure, supplementary estimates 87-88,98,108-109,227-229
Visit to National Research Council, discussed 435,469

NCC
See
National Capital Commission

NATIONAL ARTS CENTRE
See
Estimates, Supplementary (B), 1968-69. Secretary of State Department

NATIONAL CAPITAL COMMISSION
Establishment of annual meeting of Parliamentary Committee, Commission favoured 447
Gatineau Park, land acquisition 445-447

	Page
NATIONAL CAPITAL COMMISSION (Cont'd)	
Greenbelt, area, land acquisition	409,451
Hull, federal-provincial plan	443
Lebreton Flats, transportation centre	437-438,457-458
Liaison, City of Ottawa, municipal, regional governments, joint projects	410-411,413-414,452-453
National Capital Region, definition, objective	409-410
Planning, Parliament Hill, Union Station and vicinities	411-413,439-440,456-457
Pollution control, involvement	458
Quebec	
Boundaries	444
Possible establishment of regional government, effect	411
Regional Municipality of Ottawa-Carleton, effect, liaison	410-411
See also	
Estimates, Main, 1969-70	
NATIONAL DEFENCE DEPARTMENT	
Canadian Armament Research and Development Establishment, function	565
NATIONAL HARBOURS BOARD	
See	
Estimates, Supplementary (B), 1968-69. Transport Department	
NATIONAL HEALTH AND WELFARE DEPARTMENT	
See	
Estimates, Supplementary (B), 1968-69	
NATIONAL RESEARCH COUNCIL	
Computers, rental	551
Division of Building Research	541
"Environmental Pollution", committee considered	551-553

Page

NATIONAL RESEARCH COUNCIL (Cont'd)
Immunology, research 548
Laboratories, types of research, location 529-530
National Aeronautical Establishment, research 541
National Science Library 530
Patenting 538-539
Projects, rationale, information 544
Publications, research journals, *National Building Code* 530,549-550
Publicity 547
Pulp and Paper Research Institute, liaison 543
Radiation, research 548
St. Lawrence model, financing, purpose 539-540,542
Science Council of Canada, co-ordination, purpose, differences 545-546
Technical Information Service 529
University grants, eligibility criteria, distribution 534-538,549,556
See also
Canadian Patents and Development Limited
Estimates, Main, 1969-70

NATIONAL REVENUE DEPARTMENT
See
Estimates, Supplementary (B), 1968-69

NORTHERN CANADA POWER COMMISSION
Projects 207-208
See also
Estimates, Supplementary (B), 1968-69. Indian Affairs and Northern Development Department

PELLETIER, HON. G., SECRETARY OF STATE OF CANADA
Company of Young Canadians, "Cultural conscription", statement 65-66,75

Page

PERRAULT, R.J., M.P. (BURNABY-SEYMOUR)
Company of Young Canadians, comments on consultant's report on international program, discussion 68-71

PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE
Personnel, increase 629-630
Prime Minister, motor car allowance 633-634
Privy Council, relationship 628
See also
Estimates, Main, 1969-70

PRINTING BUREAU
See
Canadian Government Printing Bureau

PRIVY COUNCIL
Personnel, increase, hiring 153-154
Prime Minister's Office, relationship 628
See also
Estimates, Supplementary (B), 1968-69

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
Bilingual advisors, federal departments 6,8
Bilingual and Bicultural Development Program
Candidates, selection, success, costs 3-4,10,27-30,34-36,41-45,61,590
Housing, purchasing Toronto, Quebec City 57
Bilingualism
Bonus, eligibility 5,588
Promotions, tenure, effect 50-52,591-592
Statistics 584-585
Bureau of Staff Development and Training, expenditures 30
Career Assignment Program 10-11
Centennial Commission, personnel, relocation 56
Commissioners, number, appointment 38,47

	Page
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION (Cont'd)	
Computer installation, cost, uses	52,54-56
Departmental morale	594-595
Incentive Award Program, components	49,53-54,588
Language Training Program	
Anglophones, Francophones, percentage	591
Cost	8-10
Expenditures, forecast expenditures	30,50,57
Hull, school, acquisition	11
Methods, success, utilization	2-3,6-7,582-583
Students, statistics	585-586,592-593
Teachers, qualifications	50
Personnel	
"Casuals and Others", explanation	58
Handicapped, physically, mentally, hiring	56
Records, Central Personnel Records System	47-48
Recruitment	
Canada Manpower Centres, relationship	587-588
France	52-53,58-59
Positions	
Appointment process	
Advantages, disadvantages	32,33-34
Auditor General's Department	33,37-38
Delegation of authority to Departments	32,581,593-594
Candidate inventories	40
Competitions, advertising requirements, costs	39-40
Language requirements	53
Public servants Crown corporations, number under commission	584
Staffing Branch, staff, increase	2
See also	
Revised Main Estimates, 1968-69	
Estimates, Main, 1969-70	

	Page
PUBLIC SERVICE EMPLOYMENT ACT	
Appeal provisions	48-49
Employees, number under	38
PUBLIC SERVICE STAFF RELATIONS BOARD	
Crown corporations responsible for, list	580
Employees, number decreased	579
Estimates, Revised Main, 1968-69	(Appendix "A", p. 10-12)
Grievances	576-577,578-579
Pay Research Bureau, function	575
Provincial civil services, liaison	577
See also	
Estimates, Main, 1969-70	
PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT	
Labrador City, government employees, housing	155
See also	
Estimates, Supplementary (B), 1968-69	
REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT	
NewStart Programs	162
See also	
Estimates, Supplementary (B), 1968-69	
"REPORT ON THE DEVELOPMENT OF AN INTERNATIONAL PROGRAM FOR THE COMPANY OF YOUNG CANADIANS"	
Prepared by Gerry Hummius, September 1967	20-22,68-71
REPORTS TO THE HOUSE	
First	(10-4),(Issue 5)
Second	(7-5)
Third	(9-3)
Fourth	(9-3),(9-5)
Sixth	(15-3)
Seventh, with recommendations	(16-3),527
Eighth	(19-3)
Ninth	(21-4)

	Page
ROYAL CANADIAN MINT	
Numismatic Work, Centennial souvenir sets	131-132
ROYAL COMMISSION ON BILINGUALISM AND BICULTURALISM	
Progress, summary, cost	632,635-637,638
ROYAL COMMISSION ON FARM MACHINERY	
Progress, history	632-633
ROYAL COMMISSION ON GOVERNMENT ORGANIZATION	
Recommendations	507,511-512,513
ROYAL COMMISSION ON PILOTAGE	
History, cost	631-632
ROYAL COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN	
History, progress, summary	633
ROYAL COMMISSIONS	
Termination suggested, replacement	637-638
Walker, J.E., Parliamentary Secretary to the Prime Minister, statement	631-632
SCHNEIDER, DR. W.G., PRESIDENT, NATIONAL RESEARCH COUNCIL	
Council activities, statement	528-531
SCIENCE COUNCIL OF CANADA	
Marine sciences, special study, report	418,425,465-466
Members of Council	425
Research and development amount of Gross National Product spent on	464-465
Science policy	
Canada, study, government, liaison	418,426-427,428,430
"Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development", study, assessment of Canadian policy	429
Other countries	430-431

Page

SCIENCE COUNCIL OF CANADA (Cont'd)
Special Study Reports
"Towards a National Science Policy for Canada" 430
"Water Resources Research in Canada" 425
Staff 421-423,425
Transportation study 461-462
Urban development
Science and technology, liaison 432-433
Special study 419-420,424,428
Wildlife, fishery and forestry problems, involvement 433,459-460
See also
Estimates, Main, 1969-70

SECRETARY OF STATE DEPARTMENT
Agencies responsible for 164
Task Force on Educational Broadcasting, amount 164-165
See also
Estimates, Supplementary (B), 1968-69

SENATE
Expenses, comparison with House of Commons 621-626
Furnishings, cost 627
"Information" increased costs 618,622
"Salaries and Wages" increased 619
Senators
Privileges, travel allowance, comparison with Members of Parliament 619-621,639
Retired, pensions, pensions to widows 618,640
See also
Estimates, Supplementary (B), 1968-69. Legislature
Estimates, Main, 1969-70

SOLICITOR GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT
University scholarships in Social Sciences, new program 172-173,244-246
See also
Estimates, Supplementary (B), 1968-69

Page

SPICER, E.J., PARLIAMENTARY LIBRARIAN
Library of Parliament, organization, statement 380

SUPPLY AND SERVICES DEPARTMENT
Services
Audit Services Branch, Davie Shipyard audit, involvement 508
Bureau of Management Consulting Services 518
Cheques, Family Allowance, Old Age Security, number issued, responsibility, procedure 501-503
Staff, decrease 522-524
Supply
Automobile, purchasing 519-522
Material management process 512-513
Military hardware, purchasing considerations 524-525
Purchasing guidelines, advice, procedure, responsibility 509-512,513-515
Savings 518-519
See also
Estimates, Supplementary (B), 1968-69
Estimates, Main, 1969-70

TASK FORCE ON LABOUR RELATIONS
Amount allotted 1968-69 630

THRIFT, E.W., GENERAL MANAGER, NATIONAL CAPITAL COMMISSION
Commission, nature, purpose, statement 407-408

TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT
Air services, airports, small, assistance 190-191
Ferry services
John Hamilton Grey, construction costs 188
Prince Edward Island 212-214
Terminal facilities, Borden, P.E.I., Cape Tormentine, N.B. 188

	Page
TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT (Cont'd)	
Harbours, Halifax, Saint John, operating deficits	198
Quebec	
Montreal, Jacques Cartier Bridge, deficit	197-198
St. Charles River, retaining wall, construction	199-200
Railway Grade Crossing Fund	193-195
Vancouver, B.C., bridges, construction	235
See also	
Estimates, Supplementary (B), 1968-69	
TREASURY BOARD	
Bargaining categories, components, settlements, agencies covered	99-100
Collective agreements, local rates of pay	100
Cost-benefit studies	599-602,608-609
Employees, permanent, part-time	605
Estimates, government departments, procedure	101-104,175,603-604
Government employees	
Classification, problems	609-612
Retroactive pay	
Employees who have terminated service, nonapplicable	94-95
Income tax, accrument	95-96
Salary revisions result of collective bargaining, percent of increases	89-93,96-97,98-99
"The Planning, Programming, Budgeting Guide", objective	597
Public Service Alliance, Collective agreements, bargaining process	609
Public Service Staff Relations Act, provisions	99-100
See also	
Estimates, Supplementary (B), 1968-69	
Estimates, Main, 1969-70	

Page

VANIER INSTITUTE OF THE FAMILY
Endowment Fund, grant, government contribution, funding 128-131

VETERANS AFFAIRS DEPARTMENT
St. Anne de Bellevue Hsopital, Quebec, construction 201-202
See also
Estimates, Supplementary (B), 1968-69

WALKER, J.E., PARLIAMENTARY SECRETARY TO THE PRIME MINISTER
Prime Minister's Office, statement 627-628
Royal Commissions, statement 631-632

WOODS TASK FORCE
See
Task Force on Labour Relations

APPENDICES
Issue 1
"A" - Secretary of State, Revised Estimates, 1968-69 1-12
Issue 4
"A" - Public Service Commission, Bilingual and Bicultural Development Program, candidates selected, 1966-67 41-45
Issue 5
"B" - Public Service Commission, Analysis of Costs - Bicultural Development Program Participants Toronto, Quebec - 1967/68 61
Issue 6
"C" - Company of Young Canadians, Consultants' reports, list 80-81
"D" - Company of Young Canadians, Programme Consultants for Indian Projects, list 81
"E" - Company of Young Canadians Secretaries and Part Time Help, list 82-86

Page

APPENDICES (Cont'd)
Issue 15
"B" - Letter from Hon. Jean Chrétien, Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development re: grants to prospectors 468
Issue 17
"C" - List of Salaries paid to employees in Government and Opposition Whips' Offices 555
"D" - National Research Council, support of research at Universities 1968-69 556
Issue 20
"A" - Senators, travel allowance, letter concerning from Yves Forest (Parliamentary Secretary to the President of the Privy Council) 639
"B" - Senators, pensions, pensions to widows, letter from Yves Forest (Parliamentary Secretary to the President of the Privy Council) 640

WITNESSES
- Addison, Ruth, Commissioner, Public Service Commission 47-59
- Anderson, A.R.K., Director General of Staffing, Public Service Commission 33,36,39-40,47-49,56-58
- Balls, H.R., Deputy Minister (Services) Supply and Services Department 501-503,508-509,516-518,523-524
- Blackburn, G.A., Director General, Language Bureau, Public Service Commission 27-29,35-36,50-51,591,593
- Brittain, W.B., Acting Assistant Secretary, Treasury Board 289-333,338-356

Page

WITNESSES (Cont'd)

- Brown, Glen, Financial Administrator, Company of Young Canadians 80
- Calof, H., Treasury Solicitor, Treasury Board 328-332
- Caron, M.B., Director of Language Training, Public Service Commission 6-10
- Carson, J.J., Chairman, Public Service Commission 1-12,27-40,580-595
- Chrétien, Hon. Jean, Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development 216-224
- Cloutier, Sylvain, Assistant Secretary, Treasury Board 98-135,137-156,159-214,244-246,605-607
- Cook, Dr. W.H., Executive Director and Director of Biosciences Division, National Research Council 535-536,552-553
- Currie, Lt. Col. D.V., Sergeant-at-Arms, House of Commons 362,369-376
- Drury, Hon. C.M., President, Treasury Board 87-97,225-232,249-287,597-612
- Finkelman, J., Chairman, Public Service Staff Relations Board 573-580
- Forest, Yves, Parliamentary Secretary to the President of the Privy Council 613-622,626-627
- Fraser, Alistair, Clerk of the House of Commons 358-367,375-377,472,477,484,493-494,499
- Fraser, Dudley, Accounts, Library of Parliament 386
- Gauthier, G.E., Vice-Chairman, Public Service Staff Relations Board 578-579
- Glassford, J.S., President, Canadian Arsenals Limited 559-566
- Glassford, J.S., President, Canadian Commercial Corporation 566-573
- Glassford, J.S., Assistant Deputy Minister, Purchasing, Supply and Services Department 521-522

Page

WITNESSES (Cont'd)

- Goodings, S.G., Assistant Director, Company of Young Canadians 13-26,63-79
- Hellyer, Hon. Paul, Minister of Transport 232-243
- Hunter, J.W., Deputy Minister (Supply), Supply and Services Department 509-515,520-521
- Jamieson, Hon. D.C., Minister of Supply and Services, Receiver General for Canada 503-525
- Kirchner, J.E., Director of Finance, National Capital Commission 452
- Labonté, Dr. Y., Commissioner, Public Service Commission 583,586
- Long, George, Assistant Auditor General, Auditor General's Department 396-406
- MacNiven, J.A., Director, Construction and Services Division, National Capital Commission 451-456
- MacTaggart-Cowan, Dr. P.D., Executive Director, Science Council of Canada 417-434,459-466
- Osberg, Dr. J.L., Chief, Financial Adviser, National Research Council 531-532,550-551
- Parr, W.L., Director, Authorities Advisory Service, Treasury Board 352
- Reisman, S.S., Secretary, Treasury Board 610-611
- Robichaud, Raymond, Chief, Interpreters Branch, House of Commons 364-369
- Salaberry, C.M. de, Director of Administration, House of Commons 360-363,377-379,470-480,486-499
- Schneider, Dr. W.G., President, National Research Council 528-553
- Small, Alex, Third Clerk Assistant, House of Commons 361,363-368,374
- Smith, R.F., Director of Administration, Public Service Commission 30-31,34,52-57

	Page
- Spicer, E.J., Parliamentary Librarian, Library of Parliament	380-395
- Stewart, H.B., Director of Administration, Privy Council of Canada	629-630,636-637
- Thrift, E.W., General Manager, National Capital Commission	407-415,436-447,451-458
- Tupper, Dr. K.F., Vice-President, National Research Council	532-535,542,549-551
- Vincent, L., General Administration, Auditor General's Department	399
- Walker, J.E., Parliamentary Secretary to the Prime Minister	627-638